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BARNARD
MAGAZINE



WINTER 2013

PREPPING FOR THE FUTURE

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The United States Constitution: Up for Review?

From Telescopes to Microscopes: Alumnae Scientists

An Honest Look at How We Lie



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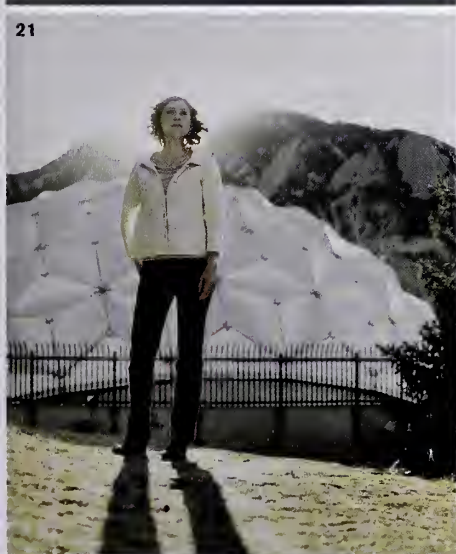
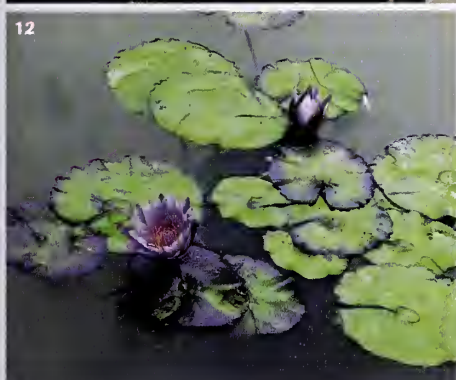
Please mark your calendars for Reunion 2013!

If you would like to serve on your class committee and be involved in planning Reunion, please contact Alumnae Affairs at reunion@barnard.edu or 212.854.2005.

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BARNARD MAGAZINE

WINTER 2013



FEATURES

18 THE UNREPENTANT ADVOCATE

by Susan Johnston

An interview with retired federal judge Nancy Gertner about her career, women and the law, and her new memoir

21 ALUMNAE IN SCIENCE

by VL Hartmann

Profiles of six alumnae with careers in the "hard" sciences

28 AN IMMUTABLE DOCUMENT?

by Dimitra Kessenides

Professor Herbert Sloan explores Thomas Jefferson's idea that the Constitution should be revised every generation

30 A MILESTONE AT 40 YEARS

by Susan Hansen

An innovation when founded, The Center for Toddler Development continues its academic research and provides creative play for youngsters

ON THE COVER

At the Center for Toddler Development
Photograph by Mark Mahaney

DEPARTMENTS

2 LETTERS

3 PRESIDENT'S PAGE

4 INSIDE

5 THROUGH THE GATES

Staff: Linda A. Bell: New Provost

Reception: Fond Farewells

Lecture: Truth & The Consequences

Studies: The Modern Novel Goes Digital

Event: Mankind's Messenger

Student: Camera Ready

14 SYLLABUS

Science: Introduction to Physics

15 THE SALON

Writer: Ruth Nemzoff

Writer & Director: Jamie Babbitt

Performer: Marlena Holter

34 ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

A letter from the president, AABC elections

37 CLASS NOTES & PROFILES

Alumnae Profiles: Joan Birman, Kathy Ebel, Pamela Cole

In Memoriam

69 SOURCES

Investments: Charitable Gift Annuities

by Lois Elfman

75 LAST IMAGE

by Rivka Widerman

76 LAST WORD

by Elizabeth Burford Breston



Lack of Giving

There was a topic that was missing from President Spar's column ("Why College Costs So Much," Fall 2012) explaining the reasons college is so expensive: Alumnae giving. I see from the "Class Notes" section that Barnard has made no progress since I graduated (1971) in teaching its students the necessity of their financial support after graduation. I judge this not by the dollar amounts given, but by percentage of the class which gives any amount at all.

When my daughter graduated from Scripps in 2011, there was a "competition" between the five undergraduate colleges of the Claremont Consortium to have the highest participation in senior giving. The suggested gift for each senior was \$20.11, in honor of her graduation year. Scripps achieved 100%. Since her graduation, I have reminded my daughter of her need to give back every single year, to the extent she can afford—especially since she herself was the recipient

of financial aid. Although she is in graduate school now and on a restricted budget, an annual gift of \$20 represents approximately four visits to Starbucks, and consequently should not be seen as a tremendous sacrifice. Although I have not done the math, empirically the average percent of class giving for those who have graduated in the last 20 years seems to be in the mid-to-high teens. Barnard must change the culture to, yes, indoctrinate students in their obligation to provide annual gifts, each year, every year, even if only a \$10 or \$20 gift from those pursuing professional schooling or advanced degrees. The habit must become ingrained. The excuse that was used in my years, that a couple was more likely to give to his school than to hers, should not be accepted in 2012. If every alumna who valued her Barnard education gave an annual gift, I'm sure class participation would be significantly above 50%.

—Basha Yonis '71
(Beverly Johnson)
via e-mail

Plaudits

Thank you so much for the excellent fall issue. I enjoyed reading the entire magazine with all of the outstanding articles. The photographs from students abroad are stunning.

I do have to make a comment regarding Carol Chrystie's letter to the editor. I think she is astute in her observation that men sometimes cut in the line over women, however I must disagree with her "hang your head in shame Barnard" statement, as I also

Continued on Page 71

BARNARD

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WRITE US

The "sandwich generation" is often used to define those people, very often women, who are feeling squeezed between caring for aging parents and supporting their children, not to mention thinking of their own retirement. Do you consider yourself a member? Would you be willing to speak to a writer from Barnard about your challenges? If so, please contact us.

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FEAR OF FAILING

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Erica Jong's (Class of '63) epic *Fear of Flying*, a passionate and explicit tale that broke the boundaries of feminine fiction. Before Jong, women were apparently allowed to have sex, but not write about it. After Jong, with her detailed descriptions of sex and affairs and desires, there was no going back.

Fear of Flying hit the bestseller lists in 1973, and remained there throughout 1974 and 1975, eventually going on to sell more than 18 million copies. Part of what made the book so popular, no doubt, was the sex. Indeed, as Jong herself later recalled, "[I]t became the book teenagers read to learn about sex, the book women read to liberate themselves, the book men read to learn about women." (I know. It saved me from *Dr. Spock Talks to Six- to Twelve-Year Olds*, my only prior resource.) The bigger impact of *Flying*, though, came from the vigor with which Jong separated sex from romance, and marriage from the norm. Until *Fear of Flying*—or more precisely, until the shift in social attitudes that Jong captured so emphatically—women of a certain age were expected to fall in love, get married, and have babies, in that order. Afterward they were free—free to embrace excitement and to abandon what they were supposed to do in favor of what they desired.


Today, *Flying*, like most of us, bears the undeniable mark of its age. Its central affair would register these days as a humdrum hook-up; its explicitness pales before that of grocery-store bestsellers like the apparently infinite *Shades of Grey*. Yet there is still something about the book that I fear our current students miss—a sense of adventure, perhaps, or an embrace of risk that transcends sexuality. Demographically, college students in 2013 are having considerably more sex than were their counterparts in 1973. They are having sex earlier, with more partners, and with far less commitment than Jong's heroine could have imagined. What I sense they are missing, though, is romance—not just of the sexual sort, but the starting-out-in-life sort. The sort that makes young women board slow-moving trains and find whatever might await them.

Today, our students tend to travel along more precise tracks. Like students at elite colleges and universities everywhere, they come to us with well-honed resumes and years of college preparation. They have taken dance classes and clarinet lessons; launched nonprofits, organized science fairs, and studied endlessly for the SATs. Once they arrive on campus, they throw themselves into even bigger whirlwinds of activity. Clubs. Student government. Study groups. Many of them are double- or triple-majors. Some undertake multiple internships. Very few, it seems, have time to catch their breath—much less to embark upon adventures that don't lead to specific ends. Sometimes I am awestruck by their energy and ambition. But sometimes I am sad. Like when one extraordinary young woman nearly broke down in my office, worried that her commitment to an incredible off-campus activity might drag her grade-point average from an A- to a B+. Or when another confessed that the pressure of it all was pushing her to exhaustion. Some of this is natural, since college has always been a busy time of life. Some of it, no doubt, is being prodded by the still-sullen state of the economy. But some of it, too, I fear, is being driven by this generation's deep-seated resistance to anything that falls short of perfection.


This is the generation, after all, that grew up with attachment parenting and hours of educational television. They grew up playing elementary-school soccer on teams

Continued on Page 71







SUMMER IN THE CITY PROGRAM
June 23 – July 20
Two courses, admissions and career workshops, field trips and fun



LIBERAL ARTS INTENSIVE
June 23 – June 29
One course from a variety of topics, one week




YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
July 7 – July 14
Immersive leadership workshops & interactive Women's Studies projects




DANCE IN THE CITY
July 7 – July 17
Theory, NYC performances and technique at Alvin Ailey Extension

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Interactive classes, science-related field trips

www.barnard.edu/summer

WHAT'S INSIDE

One of Barnard's most noteworthy institutions, The Center for Toddler Development, celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. A radical idea in 1973, the center has become an important research site for early childhood development; toddlers enrolled at the center are encouraged to learn through creative play. Happily, the youngsters are also a sure bellwether of spring—what is a more cheering sight than a smattering of small fry playing on the lawn adjacent to The Diana Center?

Retired federal judge Nancy Gertner found her true calling, the law, while at Barnard during the tumultuous Sixties. Now a professor at Harvard, Gertner reviews her career as an activist, lawyer, and judge in her new book, and admits whatever case was being tried in her courtroom, she always had an opinion but steadfastly maintained her requisite impartiality on the bench.

History Professor Herbert E. Sloan scrutinizes the Constitution in a Q&A session that examines the document through the writing of founding father Thomas Jefferson, about whom the professor is an acknowledged expert. Jefferson's idea of an always-changing Constitution remains unaccepted, but his excoriations about public and personal debt resonate today.

Barnard's science faculty members encourage and offer incredible opportunities to their students—advantageous teacher-student ratios, advanced studies, a major research university across Broadway. The researchers and scientists that grace the pages of our photo essay attest to the success of their efforts. Why does a student commit to a rigorous course of study in the “hard” sciences? Find out in our pages.

Interested in online study? Mary Gordon's online webinars dealing with the modern novel drew double the number of expected enrollees. Do we lie? Do we ever...review what Professor Dan Ariely's research reveals.

And we can't wait to see the Toddler Center's children playing on the lawn, either...

—The Editor



LINDA A. BELL: NEW PROVOST AND DEAN OF THE FACULTY

Morningside Heights differs vastly from the rustic surroundings in Pennsylvania where she's spent most of the last two decades, but despite a bit of sensory overload, Linda A. Bell finds the energy of New York and Barnard inspiring. Previously the provost and the John B. Hurford Professor of Economics at Haverford College, Bell began her new position in October and has spent much of her time meeting with professors to learn more about their work. "I've been having discussions with the faculty about research, what kinds of courses they're teaching, their views on particular curricular objectives, what their resources to support their research look like, what their strengths as a department are, and some of the challenges they face," says Bell. "My desire . . . is to learn from them," she adds. "The students and the faculty are the College's two most vital assets."

As provost, Bell is Barnard's chief academic officer, which involves overseeing all academic departments, programs, and centers, as well as the library. One of the things she finds most exciting is the sense of collaboration among faculty and departments, and the courses and research that grow from these collaborations. "One of the unique things about working in an environment like Barnard, and one of the underlying missions of most small liberal arts colleges—they foster interdisciplinary conversation and interaction," Bell says. "Interdisciplinary engagement requires resources both in terms of time and financial resources. One of the ways in which Barnard faculty collaborate, is that they are engaged and involved in cross-disciplinary pursuits."

"You think in different directions," she continues. "The beauty of it is in the unexpected interactions and all the discoveries that you didn't know were out there."

Bell hopes to enhance the emphasis that Barnard is able to place on student scholarship and on close student-faculty interaction. She also plans to continue developing one of Barnard's unique features—New York City-specific opportunities for students both on and off campus. On a personal level, Bell, her husband, and two sons had been frequent visitors to New York before moving here, the family enjoying museums, galleries, restaurants, and the energy so typical of a world capital. She speaks enthusiastically about the city's multiculturalism and the feeling of endless possibilities.

Bell is an empirical labor economist and her research has mostly been applied work with a strong policy focus. She's dealt extensively with issues of gender in the workplace and in society as a whole. "Standard theory in economics is that discrimination—while it can exist in a moment in time—cannot persist through

Continued on Page 71

"One of the joys of my job at Barnard [is] the ability to interact with and learn from the alumnae. Those alumnae I've met are fantastic women who are doing really interesting things and have a deep love and admiration for the College that is inspirational."



FOND FAREWELLS

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO COLLEAGUES & FRIENDS

In December, a farewell celebration honored 15 longtime administrators and staff who retired in 2012. With laughter, champagne, good food—and plenty of tissues—as well as family and friends, colleagues said good-bye and offered special thanks to these cherished members of the campus community. In her remarks, President Debora Spar noted the impressive longevity of their service to the College: a collective total of 365 years! Senior administrators and faculty members then spoke about the individuals with whom they had worked closely, acknowledging their dedication, professionalism, and good humor.

SPRING

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 18, 6 PM

JACK KEROUAC'S BILINGUALISM: BIOGRAPHICAL AND SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVES

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH HASSAN MELEHY AND JOYCE JOHNSON '55
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall
Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* became a cultural touchstone for generations of readers, but few realize that Kerouac began writing it in French. Hassan Melehy, associate professor of French at UNC-Chapel Hill, and Joyce Johnson, author of two books about her relationship with Kerouac, will discuss Kerouac with an emphasis on linguistic and cultural translation.

MARCH 1 AND MARCH 2

THE SCHOLAR & FEMINIST: UTOPIA A CONFERENCE

Barnard College

Imagining utopias can be an important catalyst for change. At this year's Scholar & Feminist Conference, academics, artists, and performers will create a dynamic conversation about visions of feminist futures that spur movements and power ongoing work for justice. *Information & registration at bcrw.barnard.edu.*

MARCH 11, 8 PM

FRANCIS POULENC'S GLORIA

A PERFORMANCE BY ST. OLAF'S CHOIR AND THE BARNARD-COLUMBIA CHORUS

Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, Broadway at W. 66th St.

Premiering in 1961 in Boston, Francis Poulenc's masterful choral work has become one of the most celebrated musical interpretations of the Roman Catholic *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. The Barnard-Columbia Chorus joins the St. Olaf's Choir for this special concert.

MARCH 13, 6:30 PM

A CONVERSATION WITH CHRISTINE QUINN

Event Oval, The Diana Center

Since taking office in 1999, Speaker of the New York City Council Christine Quinn has championed a range of issues, including marriage equality, affordable housing, and more. Join Speaker Quinn for a conversation that is certain to shed light on the future of our city.

MAY 9, 6:30 PM

THE TODDLER CENTER TURNS 40 THE POWER OF PLAYFUL LEARNING: HOW OUR CHILDREN REALLY LEARN

THE JULIA HOWE WARD CHILD DEVELOPMENT LECTURE BY KATHY HIRSH-PASEK

Event Oval, The Diana Center

Schools increasingly trim recess, saying the time is better spent in academic pursuits. But statistics suggest otherwise. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, Stanley and Debra Lefkowitz Professor of Psychology and director of the Infant and Language Laboratory at Temple University, debunks the myth that play and learning are incompatible.

Full calendar of events at barnard.edu/calendar



(Read from left) 1 Retiree Nell Dillon-Ermers, administrator, political science department, with her husband, Howard 2 Susan Cohn '66, outgoing longtime executive assistant to Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 and Cohn's sister, Ruth Stern 3 Joseph LeSauter retired from residential life and housing. 4 Biological sciences coordinator Krystyna Bucharowski is leaving the department. 5 Party-goers Ann Aversa, director, residential life, and Douglas Maget, purchasing and stores director 6 Pat Jackson joined her sister Gwen Williams, a manager who is leaving the provost's office. 7 Professors David Weiman, Robert McCaughey, and Stephanie Pfirman at the reception 8 Vivian Taylor, vice president, community development, and Brenda Slade, director, health services, both retired. 9 Dean of the College Avis Hinkson speaking at the event 10 English Professor Christopher Baswell and Associate Dean James Runsdorf, advisor to the junior class, saluted their departing colleagues. 11 Saul Davis, director, Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP), and Ricky White, associate controller, are leaving. 12 Gail Beltrone, vice president, college services, with outgoing director of mail and print services Alan Anderson CC '68, his wife, Mary '70, son-in-law Eddie Venegas, and daughter Karin Venegas 13 Well-wishers Karen Fairbanks, professor of professional practice, architecture, Linda Bell, provost, and Jennifer Fondiller, dean of enrollment management

Retirees not attending were John Adams, STEP counselor; Sollette Baker, human resources manager; Karen Blank, dean of studies; Susan Lee, senior associate director, financial aid; and Susan Quinby, director, disability services.

TRUTH & THE CONSEQUENCES

BEHAVIORAL ECONOMIST DAN ARIELY INVESTIGATES
HONESTY & (DIS)HONESTY



Ever hear the joke about the kid who comes home from school with a note from his teacher? He's in trouble for stealing a pencil from the boy sitting beside him. His dad is furious. "Why would you steal a pencil? It's wrong," says Dad. "If you need a pencil, just tell me. I have *dozens* of pencils I can bring home from the office!"

This is just one of Dan Ariely's anecdotes—sometimes raunchy, sometimes biblical—illustrating how easy it is to rationalize one's own dishonesty. During a lecture at Barnard's Diana Center, Ariely, who is the James B. Duke Professor of Psychology and Behavioral Economics at Duke University, shared some of his fascinating experiments designed to make sense of why humans act the way they do. His bestselling books, *Predictably Irrational* and *The Upside of Irrationality*, explore the notion that we are not as reasonable as we may think. His latest book, *The (Honest) Truth About Dishonesty: How We Lie to Everyone—Especially Ourselves*, offers insights into how and why we all regularly lie or cheat, sometimes without even thinking about it.

Ariely is among the growing ranks of thinkers, authors, and speakers—among them Malcolm Gladwell (*The Tipping Point*), Steven Levitt (*Freakonomics*), and Daniel Kahneman (*Thinking, Fast and Slow*)—bringing economic concepts to popular culture. To understand the professor fully is to experience him as a personality. He only started writing research-based books to garner interest in the experimental cookbook he's wanted to

write for years—*Dining Without Crumbs: The Art of Eating Over the Kitchen Sink* is his next project. But his engaging research and creative storytelling struck a nerve. A favorite on lecture circuits, millions of people have watched Ariely's TED talks and other videos on YouTube. He writes the "Ask Dan Ariely" advice column for *The Wall Street Journal*, and is the founder of a research organization called The Center for Advanced Hindsight. One online fan sums up the appeal: Ariely is the kind of guy you want to hang out with. His heartbreaking backstory of suffering third-degree burns over much of his body as a young man still informs his work. The painful and often irrational treatments he was forced to endure led to an interest in human behaviors and motivations.

He began his Diana Center lecture with some rational questions that people rarely ask themselves: "How many people have lied in 2012?" and "Have you lied in the past week?" Many members of the crowd kept hands raised for both questions. "The reality is we lie a lot," he said. "At the same time, how many of you think of yourselves in general as wonderful, honest people? Probably most of us."

"Today it's easy for us to be dishonest to a larger degree without thinking of

ourselves as bad people,” he added. Our dishonesty is not always rational. Most of us would never walk out of a restaurant without paying the check, for example, but many routinely download music from the Internet without paying for it. Sometimes cost/benefit analysis factors into such behavior: What will I get away with? How much will it cost me? Will I get caught? Other times it doesn’t. During his talk, he cited an example of the headline-making former CIA director, Gen. David Petraeus, who obviously didn’t do a cost-benefit analysis while making decisions regarding his affair: The costs were far greater than the benefits.

In an attempt to measure dishonesty, Ariely’s team of researchers conducts experiments around the world, visiting university campuses, corporate offices, bars; they even have a mobile research vehicle in North Carolina, which roams churches and county fairs. One primary experiment involves a math quiz in which participants can earn money for each completed answer in a short amount of time. “At the end I tell people to stop, pencils down, and tell me how many questions you got correctly. Then shred your paper at the back of the room,” he said. At \$5 per correct question with no one checking the answers, participants have the incentive and the opportunity for dishonesty. A rigged shredder helps his team compare what people claim with the truth. What the researchers find is that most people are a little bit dishonest. “People told me they got 6 questions correct. We found that most people got 4 questions correct,” he said.

Offering more money for each correct answer doesn’t increase the cheating rate. In fact, at \$10 per answer, cheating decreases slightly, only to go back up at the \$15 mark. Geography doesn’t matter much: Aside from cultural differences, the moral fiber in the United States is no different from that of China, Turkey, Israel (where Ariely was raised), Canada, and so on. What about the difference between men and women respondents? The difference, says Ariely, is that women always ask him that question, men don’t. One thing that does consistently change behaviors is making people think about morality beforehand. When the test begins with participants being asked to sign an unrelated honor code or to name all Ten Commandments, no one cheats on the quiz. Ariely thinks this valuable information, and has offered this research to organizations that commonly deal with cheaters, such as insurance companies and even the Internal Revenue Service.

There is a tremendous societal and economic impact when good people cheat without thinking about it. During his talk, he posed the question: What’s scarier—outrageous con artists like investor Bernard Madoff, or the hundreds of seemingly decent people who were being paid a lot of money to believe and tout the benefits of investing in mortgage-backed securities? “Sure, there are some big cheaters out there and you should worry about them,” he said. “But the greater economic impact of cheating is done by a lot of people who cheat a little.”

In the end, the good news for optimists is that we are more honest than economic theory would predict. Based on his observations, Ariely affirmed, “It’s really admirable how many opportunities for dishonesty we don’t take.”

Aside from cultural differences, the moral fiber in the United States is no different from that of China, Turkey, Israel, Canada, and so on.





THE MODERN NOVEL GOES DIGITAL

ENTHUSIASTIC ALUMNAE FLOCK TO MARY GORDON'S ONLINE COURSE

One of the continuing pleasures of being a Barnard alumna is the opportunity to audit classes on campus and participate in the intellectual life of the College. Recognizing that alumnae beyond the tristate area crave the same intellectual engagement, this fall Barnard launched its first online course, *The Modern Novel*, taught by best-selling author and Millicent C. McIntosh Professor in English and Writing Mary Gordon '71.

"I was looking for things we could do online," says Dorothy Urman Denburg '70, vice president of college relations. "Mary proposed it after we were together in Chicago in the fall of 2010; she did a reading from her novel *The Love of My Youth*. She said she was willing to be a pioneer, and I leapt at it. I know her to be one of our most gifted teachers."

The demand was clearly there, affirms Gordon. "When I would go around the country and meet with alumnae groups, they would ask for this," she says. "I thought this might be a good way [for alumnae outside New York] to connect with the College."

The seminar was originally designed for 40 participants. Almost double—75 alumnae—signed up. "I was pleasantly surprised that we could have filled it twice," says Denburg. The course focused on five modern novels, Joseph Conrad's *The Secret Agent*, Ford Madox Ford's *The Good Soldier*, E.M. Forster's *Howards End*, James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*. Gordon delivered two lectures for each novel; alumnae participated fully in a webinar, a real-time session for each text with viewers submitting questions or comments (unlike the auditing experience). The first 40 enrollees were also able to submit their journal entries about the works to Gordon.

"We wanted to make it a unique Barnard product," says Denburg, who emphasizes that this online venture is "not about modifying the undergraduate experience." What makes it distinctly "Barnard" is that the alumnae are "engaged, and having a conversation with Mary."

Still, as Gordon says, "The ability to talk to each other through the discussion board makes it a much more personal use of online education. It is not something I would do with undergraduates. It's not a substitute for personal relationships."

The experience has been gratifying for alumnae participants. "The lectures were interesting and well organized," says Alison Hayford '68, a retired professor of sociology and social studies, who participated in the webinars. She admitted that she found "writing 500 words much harder than writing 5000," although she enjoyed doing the journal entries.

Nicole Vianna '81, an economics major who was in the non-journal writing cohort, signed up because "I had read some of the books before, and I wanted to revisit them in a more formal way," she says. "The level was very high. It's Barnard women, which is what made it fun." Plus, there was Mary Gordon herself. "Her presence was the best thing," says Vianna. Carol Cohen '59, an English major

Continued on Page 71



MANKIND'S MESSENGER



Photos: 1 Elie Wiesel with Debora Spar during the Q&A session 2 Prior to his talk, Wiesel met with students for an informal discussion. At far right is Avis Hinkson, dean of the College.

The audience of about 400 people packed into The Diana Center's Event Oval fell nearly silent one night this past fall when Nobel laureate, Holocaust survivor, writer, professor, and activist Elie Wiesel began his talk with these words, "I'll tell you a story. I love stories." The story Wiesel offered (about the Biblical Adam's search for himself), and others that followed, served not only to entertain, but also to awaken and inspire. With the audience in his thrall, Wiesel interlaced his October 11 talk with references rooted in Jewish culture, text, and history, while adhering to universal themes of injustice, indifference, and the interconnectedness of humanity.

The event, sponsored by The Ingeborg, Tamara, and Yonina Rennert Women in Judaism Forum Fund, began with an introduction by Barnard President Debora Spar, who praised Wiesel for widening his pursuit of human dignity and peace beyond the Jewish people "to embrace all oppressed people and races."

Wiesel is the author of the Holocaust memoir *Night*, based on his experiences as an inmate of three concentration camps, as well as more than 50 other works of fiction and nonfiction. In awarding Wiesel his 1986 Nobel, the Nobel Committee called Wiesel a "messenger to mankind" for his "practical work in the cause of peace."

It is this pursuit of peace and justice that has fueled Wiesel's work for decades. "I fought not only injustice," Wiesel told the crowd, "but also indifference." He continued, "The opposite of love is not hatred, but indifference. The opposite of knowledge is indifference. The opposite of culture is indifference. Every class you take, every book you read: Always remember, indifference is not an option."

Wiesel, at home on the stage and known for his eloquent oratory, spoke largely extemporaneously, his ease making it seem at times as if the audience members were guests in his living room. Yet, he gave heartfelt and earnest advice, "Where something is wrong, denounce it immediately. Waiting only helps the perpetrator, never the victim.

"A person can be defined by his or her quest," he observed, adding, "There is nothing more elegant or exciting for me than to study together [with friends]," mentioning his passion for Talmud, how it "becomes a melody." His words then darkened, "My enemy also has a quest. His quest is conquest, humiliation, domination."

Although the audience included several Holocaust survivors (and their descendants as well) Wiesel, who is 84, was moved to suggest that he was "probably the oldest man in the room." But he then affirmed, "We are all the same."

"The world is not perfect, and it never has been. Something must be done to save
Continued on Page 72

CAMERA READY

CREATING A YOUTHFUL MEMOIR THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY



Tianyue Sun '16 snapped her first picture when she was 7 years old. A photographer friend of her father's gave her the camera, and after that, there was no stopping the young child. She recalls her first efforts as being those of "funny faces," along with activities and events that took place in her schoolroom. Sun became more serious about photography during a trip to the Great Wall of China, photos of which appear in a book of her work, *Impressions of Youth*, published when she was 15 by the Chinese Photographers Society. A selection is shown on these pages.

Born in Beijing, Sun, known as Angela to friends and classmates, is the daughter of parents who each have pursued separate careers in public service. She learned



English at the International School in Beijing and has had an international and well-traveled background, which she chronicles through the pictures in her book.

Sun plans to major in economics, with a possible minor in psychology, but photography remains a part of her life; currently, she is an associate in the photo department of the *Columbia Daily Spectator*. Over the recent winter break, she took her Canon with her during a visit to Cambodia and Thailand. She no doubt found ample subject matter; as she writes in her preface to her book, "Photography . . . has become my indispensable companion. It gives me the power to capture and record beautiful moments in my life."

1 *Bristle-grass bathing with sunshine* at the Great Wall of China at Gubeikou, Mid-Autumn Festival, 2010 **2** *Tianyue Sun '16* **3** *Sky tints water*, Inner Mongolia, summer 2011 **4** *First ray of morning light*, also shot when she visited the Great Wall **5** *Go Go Go!*, from the summer of 2008, in Ningxia, China **6** *Lotus*, also photographed in Ningxia, is a tribute to Sun's mother whose name means "lotus" in Chinese. **7** *Above the clouds*, summer, 2008



INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS

HELPING STUDENTS DECODE THE WORLD WE SEE AND DON'T SEE

Reshmi Mukherjee, Barnard's Helen Goodhart Altschul Professor of Physics and Astronomy, begins her introductory physics class with a discussion of so-called noctilucent clouds. These wisps of ice crystals, thought to be symptoms of climate change, appear in polar skies, and only at twilight. Though the sun has dipped below the horizon, its rays still reach the upper atmosphere, making the clouds shimmer and glow. Mukherjee's question to her class: Exactly how high into the sky do these ghostly forms extend? By setting physics problems within the context of an atmospheric phenomenon linked to climate change, Mukherjee shows each new class of students how basic physics can help them approach complex scientific issues. She demonstrates how to use simple geometry to come up with an estimate of how high up the clouds are.

"In the last five years, many [students] have come into the

course having already studied advanced math and advanced physics," says the professor, who has taught introductory physics for the past 15 years. "In the past it was really an intro course. But that has changed." New students who have taken advanced placement and honors physics in high school may have selected Barnard specifically for its strong programs in science. The physics and astronomy department at the College is intimate—with four professors and small class sizes, ensuring that students will receive close attention.

The Introduction to Physics course typically enrolls 45 students. The challenge, adds Mukherjee, lies in covering the basics while still engaging students who may already have encountered similar material. To meet it, she relies on a combination of old-school teaching tools combined with an

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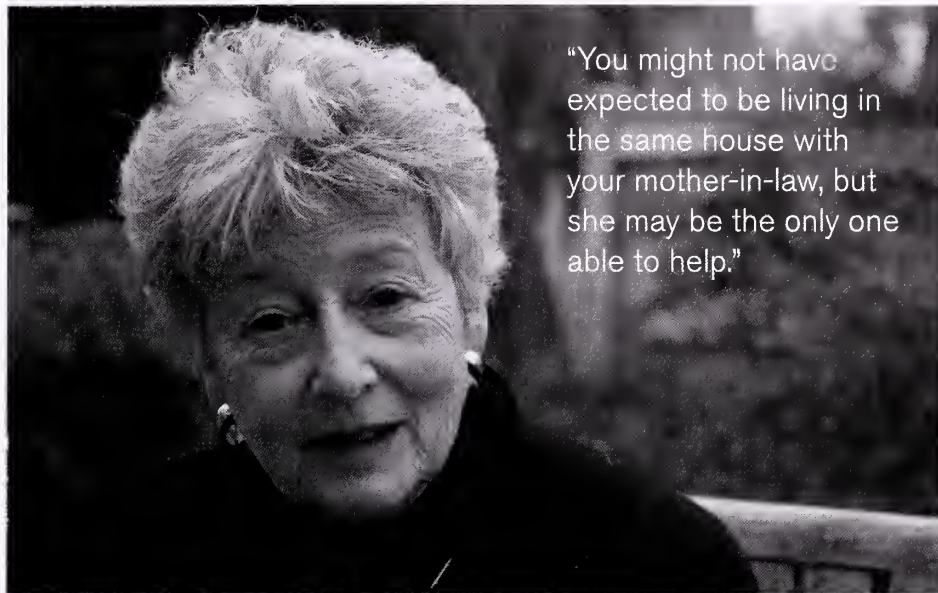
NO JOKE: BONDING WITH IN-LAWS IS NOT A LAUGHING MATTER

RUTH NEMZOFF '62

Comedian Henny Youngman once quipped: "Just got back from a pleasure trip: I took my mother-in-law to the airport." Mothers-in-law are the easy butts of jokes, often stereotyped as controlling, ugly, nasty, and cruel. The barbs poke at a perplexing fact: When we marry, our spouse's family instantly becomes ours too, yet they're strangers with different values, customs, and expectations for everything from relationships with their children to gift giving. Navigating these relationships can be so challenging that family members resort to jabs and digs to mask their discomfort.

It doesn't have to be that way, says Ruth Nemzoff, who offers tools for positive interactions in her new book, *Don't Roll Your Eyes: Making In-Laws into Family* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012). If it's any comfort, she says, tensions between spouses and in-laws are universal. She discovered that truth when speaking to audiences here and abroad over a three-year period while promoting her 2008 book, *Don't Bite Your Tongue: How to Foster Rewarding Relationships with Your Adult Children*. Audience members regularly pulled her aside to lament stressful relationships with their in-laws. Nemzoff knew she had the makings of her next book.

Don't Roll Your Eyes explores how in-law bonds can be strained when families confront the challenges of intermarriage, children, money, and death and dying. "People think in-laws don't matter, but you're going to be involved with these people if they get sick, when a



"You might not have expected to be living in the same house with your mother-in-law, but she may be the only one able to help."

grandchild is born, or when there's a health crisis," says Nemzoff, a resident scholar at Brandeis University's Women's Studies Research Center. Her other roles have included professor, legislator, and doctoral student, as well as wife, mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother. The Boston native enrolled at Barnard after succumbing to the lure of New York City, earning a master's degree in counseling from Columbia in 1964. She received her doctorate in administration, planning, and social policy in 1979 from Harvard. She also served in the New Hampshire legislature from 1975 to 1981.

Friends may rally in an emergency, but family members often remain the first line of defense. "You might not have expected to be living in the same house with your mother-in-law, but she may be the only one able to help," she says. The value of family as caretakers hit home nearly three years ago when her Boston-area home of 25 years was damaged in a fire. "It was really the kids, in-laws included, who led us around until we were back on our feet," says Nemzoff. With her husband, Harris Berman, she has four children, including Sarabeth Berman '06, four in-law

children, and seven grandchildren.

Married for nearly 50 years, Nemzoff says her respect for her mother and her in-laws grew over time. "I understood it," she says. "The mother really loves her son and gave a lot to him. And I think she has some rights to his affection and his finances if needed. Parenting is a lot of work and sacrifice."

Adjusting to evolving roles is a lifelong process. People learn to compromise, soften rough edges, ignore annoying habits, and tolerate, or perhaps even appreciate, quirks. "Be forgiving," she advises. "Give people a break when they call it wrong." Nemzoff encourages both generations to recognize that their perceptions of one another may be colored by their own expectations about childrearing, holiday traditions, spending, and saving. Rigid beliefs can trigger judgmental attitudes, and anyone who feels judged is also likely to feel insecure. She urges compassion and understanding. In-law relationships, whether new or established, can be deepened if the parties respect the connection that turned them from strangers into relatives. "If we want to be in a relationship with the children," she says, "we have to love what they love."

FINDING HER OWN DIRECTION

JAMIE BABBIT '93

A class with the legendary poet and late Columbia professor Kenneth Koch taught Jamie Babbit skills she uses each time she directs a television show. Koch would assign students to write in the style of a particular poet. “He’d say ‘write like Emily Dickinson,’ and we’d have to be able to imitate the style and bring our own creative flair to it,” she recalls. It’s the same in television; show creators set the tone for a new program, then call in directors like Babbit to direct individual episodes, a role Babbit likens to “being invited for Thanksgiving dinner as the guest of honor and you’ve never met the family before,” but one in which she feels at ease. “I find myself using that skill all the time—deconstructing the visual language that has been used and imitating it.”

Babbit has also written and directed several independent films. Her first was the 1999 satirical comedy *But I’m a Cheerleader*. Starring Natasha Lyonne, the movie is about an all-American high schooler whose parents suspect she is gay and send her to “sexual redirection” school. The film won multiple festival awards and landed Babbit on *Variety*’s “50 Creatives to Watch” list. She has since directed *The Quiet* (2005) and the forthcoming *Breaking the Girls*, and she wrote and directed *Itty Bitty Titty Committee* (2007).

In the two feature films she wrote, gay female characters take journeys of self-discovery. “She brings a unique perspective to her movies—being a woman, a lesbian, and telling stories relevant to both,” says Andrea Sperling, a producer of Babbit’s films. The two are also former longtime partners and have two children. “She tells stories



about women who have to get through, learn, strengthen themselves . . . and change people, whether it’s politically, sexually, or emotionally.”

Babbit’s own journey toward a career began at Barnard. Through the career services office, she landed an internship her first year with the producer of *Dead Poets Society*. A Centennial Scholar (former Columbia professor Larry Engel was her mentor), she used her scholarship money on summer film studies at NYU. She also took film classes at Columbia. But she always planned to pursue an international-affairs career and, like her father, attend Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). A semester in Ghana brought a change in thinking: She spent her spare time shooting footage of the lavishly decorated taxis common in West Africa. “I was more interested in making a movie than in doing foreign service,” she says. That footage became a film, which she handed in as her senior thesis. “At Barnard, I was able to explore all of it, then figure out what I was most interested in.”

After graduation, she landed a job in Los Angeles on the set of her first big studio movie. “I realized that an \$80-million movie is similar to a student film in that it’s really just the director, photographer, and actors—you just have

“I was more interested in making a movie than in doing foreign service. . . . At Barnard I was able to explore all of it, then figure out what I was most interested in.”

more support. It became demystified.” She spent her spare time writing the script for *But I’m a Cheerleader*. “You have to pursue two things at once,” explains Babbit. “So by the time you get a chance, you are ready.” She took the script to the Sundance Film Festival and secured funding; by the next year she showed the finished movie there.

After this break, Babbit told her agent she wanted to try television directing, a field that still has relatively few women. TV writer Ryan Murphy, who went on to create or co-create *Nip/Tuck*, *Glee*, and *American Horror Story*, among other shows, had seen her film and in 2000 hired her to direct his show, *Popular*. She has since directed episodes of a wide range of shows, from the chatty comedy *Gilmore Girls*, starring Lauren Graham ’88, to the thriller-mystery series *Revenge*. Babbit especially enjoys working on such shows as *Bunheads* and *Rizzoli & Isles*, both created by women and exploring relationships between them. She’s also currently writing a movie about two sisters—one of whom just got out of rehab—working as maids in Cleveland, Babbit’s hometown, so she’s especially excited about the film.

Babbit thinks her career path is one for which many Barnard graduates would be well suited. “It requires persistence and a kind of fearlessness in pursuing what you want to do, and I feel that a lot of Barnard women are fearless and persistent.”

SCHOLAR & SYNCHRONIZED SKATER

MARLENA HOLTER '15

Marlena Holter '15 spends her weekdays like most Barnard students—studying for an upcoming test, rushing to class, and hanging out with her suite mates. But by eight o'clock on Saturday mornings, she's spinning, jumping, and pivoting on the ice during a practice that lasts eight hours, with another eight-hour session on Sunday. Holter competes with the Skyliners Synchronized Skating Team, which draws skaters from the tristate area. She is part of the 19-member senior line, or division, which, along with the junior line, is a member of Team USA. The entire team of nine lines takes part in competitions throughout the country; junior and senior lines also compete internationally.

Holter started skating at age 7, after admiring the Olympic figure skaters she watched on TV. By high school, she was practicing 35 hours a week, leaving her house in Westchester at 5:15 AM

to train before school, and returning to the ice after classes. "Skating became my entire life," she says. Holter's team won national championship titles in the junior and juvenile divisions in March 2011; she is headed to the Spring Cup, an international competition to be held in Milan in 2013.

Attending Barnard enables Holter to keep competing with the Skyliners, but in addition to 25 hours a week of skating, strength training, and ballet and acting classes as well as traveling to competitions, she is pursuing a major in neuroscience and doing research in the laboratory of biology professor John Glendinning. Her experiments deal with how mammals taste sugars, research that may shed light on humans and obesity. Most days find Holter at the lab conducting behavioral experiments and caring for the mice that are her subjects.

Continued on Page 73



Marlena Holter, second from right and smiling, skates with the Skyliners Synchronized Skating Team.

RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

FICTION

THE TELL

by Hester Kaplan '81
Harper Perennial, 2013, \$14.99

FEVER

by Mary Beth Keane '99
Scribner, 2013, \$26

POETRY

THE MUSIC BEHIND ME

by Felice Aull '60
Alabaster Leaves Publishing, 2012, \$14

NONFICTION

MAHOGANY: THE COSTS OF LUXURY IN EARLY AMERICA

by Jennifer L. Anderson '88
Harvard University Press, 2012, \$25

THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO WRITING NONFICTION

by Christina Boufis '83
Alpha Books/Penguin, 2012, \$16.95

EDWARD HOPPER IN VERMONT

by Bonnie Tocher Clause '64
University Press of New England, 2012, \$35

WITH AND WITHOUT HER: A MEMOIR OF BEING AND LOSING A TWIN

by Dorothy Foltz-Gray '70
Argo-Navis, 2012, \$15.21

RISK MANAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE INSTITUTIONS: LIMITING LIABILITY AND ENHANCING CARE (THIRD EDITION)

by Florence Kavalier '55 and Raymond Alexander
Jones and Bartlett Learning, 2012, \$104.95

BE FRUITFUL: THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO MAXIMIZING FERTILITY AND GIVING BIRTH TO A HEALTHY CHILD

by Victoria Maizes '82 and Andrew Weil
Scribner, 2013, \$20

ORTIZ'S ESPAÑOL PARA ABOGADOS (SPANISH FOR LAWYERS)

by Victoria Ortiz '64
Foundation Press, 2012, \$70

CUSTOM NATION: WHY CUSTOMIZATION IS THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS AND HOW TO PROFIT FROM IT

by Emily Flynn Vencat '02 and Anthony Flynn BenBella, 2012, \$16.95

FACULTY

AMERICAN ANTISLAVERY WRITINGS: COLONIAL BEGINNINGS TO EMANCIPATION

Edited by James G. Basker, Professor of Literary History
The Library of America, 2012, \$40

Complete listings at barnard.edu/magazine

THE UNREPENTANT ADVOCATE

Retired federal judge Nancy Gertner '67 continues her legal career by teaching at Harvard Law School, publishing a memoir, and speaking out on important issues

In her first high-profile case, Nancy Gertner defended Susan Saxe, an antiwar activist accused of robbery and murder in a Brighton, Mass., bank heist. Then in her late 20s, her experience had consisted mainly of representing women in divorce court and handling a few criminal trials. Though she had not planned to defend the lesbian radical feminist, the case would prove a watershed moment for her career as all eyes focused on Gertner and her client—and most expected them to fail. “I have no idea why I took the case except that I could not acknowledge my own fear,” she recalls. “If we failed, we were narcissistically carrying the entire mantle of our generation.”

Once she accepted the challenge, Gertner developed a friendship with Saxe and immersed herself in mounting Saxe’s defense. “Her background was similar to mine,” she says. “Visiting her in jail was an experience that I never forgot—even as a judge—what it’s like to hear the doors slam when you go to prison. Those are the kinds of experiences that I think we all should have on the bench.”

The first trial ended in a hung jury, which few lawyers, reporters, or others expected. Articles on the trial referred to Gertner as the “lady lawyer”—if they referred to her at all—highlighting how little the public thought of Gertner or female criminal-defense attorneys at the time. Saxe later pleaded guilty to manslaughter, but the highly charged case helped make a name for Gertner

and her Boston law practice. As a lawyer, and later a federal judge, she would continue to spark controversy and advocate for important social issues—and would win the respect of her opponents.

Known for wearing red dresses in court and, early in her career, carrying her legal briefs in shopping bags, Gertner kept a file on the gender insults and sexual discrimination she encountered from judges and other lawyers. Despite, or perhaps because of, her struggles to be taken seriously in the male-dominated world of law, she went on to handle cases involving sexual harassment, abortion, murder, sex discrimination (including a lawsuit against Harvard Law School for discrimination in a tenure issue). At the start of her career, she also represented a woman whose psychiatrist was accused of having sex with her.

Now, three decades after the Susan Saxe case, Gertner shows few signs of retreating from the public eye. Beacon Press published her memoir, *In Defense of Women: Memoirs of an Unrepentant Advocate*, in 2011; she now juggles speaking engagements, full-time teaching at Harvard Law School, and work on a second book about her time on the bench. She says she’s also been approached about running for political office and hasn’t ruled out that possibility. Indeed, hanging up her judge’s robes means that Gertner can air her opinions much more freely. “As my husband says, now that I can speak, I

can’t shut up,” says the law professor. “I have a lot that I’ve held in over the last several years.” She spoke candidly about her career and the challenges facing professional women during an alumnae event and book-signing hosted by the Barnard Club of Boston in October.

Gertner grew up on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, the youngest daughter of a Jewish family with roots in Poland and Hungary. Her older sister, Roz, attended Barnard and Gertner followed, studying political science and serving as president of the undergraduate association during her senior year.

She arrived at the College as one person and came out another. As Anna Quindlen, who is quoted in Gertner’s book says, “I arrived at college with...a trunk full of perfect pleated kilts, and perfect monogrammed sweaters, by Christmas vacation I had another perfect uniform: overalls, turtlenecks...and the perfect New York City Barnard affect—part hyperintellectual, part ennui...” After reading *The Feminine Mystique* and discovering her social conscience, Gertner left college an antiwar protestor and an outspoken feminist, though admittedly the kind of feminist who shaved her legs. “We were the transition generation,” she says, noting that she remains in touch with a group of friends she met at the College. “The school I started off at was not the school I graduated from and not remotely the school it is today. It was the place I first marched against the Vietnam War.”





"The school that I started off at was not the school I graduated from. . . . It was the place where I first marched against the Vietnam War."

to marry and have children, part of my rebellion in direct proportion to my mother wanting it." She met her future husband, ACLU attorney John Reinstein, when they worked together on abortion cases. When the couple married, Gertner became stepmother to Reinstein's daughter, Sarah. Gertner had her first of two sons, Stephen, at age 39, and jokes that her experiences of motherhood and menopause ran "neck and neck."

When asked about balancing motherhood and a high-profile legal career, Gertner explains that starting a family later in life allowed her the stature and resources to create a flexible schedule when she needed it. But, she notes, her experience can't be generalized. "Between the two of us, we could create an environment where [balancing children and a career] is possible, but I don't want anyone ever to believe that that's the only right thing to do," she says. "It was right for us."

Over the course of her career, Gertner has received numerous awards. Most recently, the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts awarded her the Lelia J. Robinson Award, which recognizes women who "have captured the spirit of pioneering in the legal profession." She

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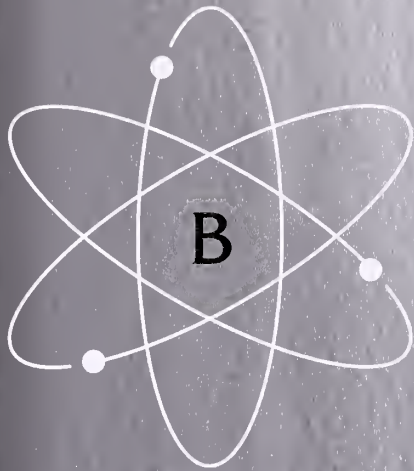
While at Barnard, Gertner took a constitutional-law class, an experience that, when paired with spirited debates with her father growing up, sparked her interest in studying law. "I still have my notebook from that class," she says. "It was seared into my memory."

At Yale Law School, where Gertner was one of 20 women in her class, she struck up a friendship with classmate Hillary Rodham and met Bill Clinton, who would later nominate her for the federal judgeship. After Yale, Gertner worked as a law clerk, and then practiced at a firm in Boston. Her long-term plan was to become a professor rather than practice law. "But after the experience of literally saving someone's life in the Saxe case, I couldn't leave," she says. "I just did what I thought was right."

Throughout Gertner's career, she's advocated for what she believed, even when the path to justice was winding and unclear. In one case, she defended a local college student who'd been found guilty of rape because Gertner thought the original charges were not believable. On appeal the conviction was overturned, and her client went free. Still, Gertner worried about the precedent set for future rape cases since the appeal initially resulted in a decision that was not helpful to women victims, and went beyond what she'd originally asked for. As she wrote in her memoir, "Once you are enlisted to represent someone, you cannot control the outcome, the court's reasoning, [or] the impact on other cases."

For much of her twenties and thirties, Gertner says she was "determined not

ALUMNAE IN SCIENCE



Throughout the years, Barnard women have studied such sciences as astronomy, biology, chemistry, and physics, pursuing careers in these fields. Many of these women were pioneers, establishing their places within scientific communities that were all but closed to them. On the following pages, six alumnae, two of whom are retired, talk about their research, how they started, and what inspired them.



Photograph by Dustin Aksland

Janna Levin '88

ASTROPHYSICIST

"I came to science late," says astrophysicist, writer, and Barnard associate professor Janna Levin '88. She had been studying philosophy when she discovered a passion for a more tangible field of study. "It was the universality of math that was appealing," she says. "Math was still true, and that was fascinating." Today, Levin splits her time among a range of passions. She is a professor of physics and astronomy, a scientist studying black holes, an award-winning author of two books, including the novel *A Madman Dreams of Turing*

Machines, and a mother. She enjoys them all. "We're too accustomed to having small identities," she says, noting that her writing and her research never compete with each other except in terms of hours in the day. "They are very different experiences," she affirms. This spring, Levin will be on sabbatical at the California Institute of Technology, continuing to study what happens when black holes collide, and recording the sounds the universe makes when space starts to fumble and vibrate.



Photograph by Dorothy Heng

Elnaz Menhaji-Klotz '02

MEDICINAL CHEMIST

Elnaz Menhaji-Klotz doesn't have the kind of career that can be left at the office—or the lab. Her role as a principal scientist at Pfizer Inc. in Cambridge, Mass., means she works long hours with biologists and researchers to create compounds that could end up as new medicines to treat cardiovascular and metabolic disorders such as heart disease and diabetes. The compounds that prove successful in initial tests go on to the clinical-trial phase. At Barnard, Menhaji-Klotz was

drawn to organic chemistry, which she continued to study at Yale, earning a PhD in the field. "It's all about concepts," she says. "I didn't feel like I had to memorize things. We faced problems like, 'Here's a molecule. How do you make this?' That's what I do now." Today she applies those concepts to research that's both challenging and fulfilling. "The potential rewards are so huge," Menhaji-Klotz says. "I love it. This work can have such a great impact on human lives."



Photograph by Dorothy Hong

Bonnie Fleming '93

PARTICLE PHYSICIST

Bonnie Tamminga Fleming sees her work as fundamental: “Particle physicists work to break the world down into the smallest building blocks.” After graduating from Barnard, Fleming spent three years as a beam operator on a particle accelerator at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, N.Y. “The concept of smashing particles open to learn more about the universe attracted me to particle physics,” she says. Fleming returned to Columbia University for her

PhD, and now heads an experimental-research group at Yale University focusing on high-energy neutrino physics. Fleming partners with Fermilab outside Chicago, where she works on experiments that often involve hundreds of scientists from institutions around the world over the course of many years. “In all of these experiments, we’re working to discover new properties of neutrinos and understand what they can tell us about the universe,” she says.



Photograph by Gabriela Hasbun

Archana Patel '03

DNA ANALYST

Archana Patel is only half joking when she says that watching *CSI* led her to a career as a DNA analyst. As a student, she loved law but not the prospect of life in a courtroom. She also relished studying chemistry, and understanding how explosions occur from the simplest actions; the tiny details capable of producing such large consequences fascinated Patel. "On *CSI*, they found connections between the smallest of things, and that solved the crimes." Patel now works as a

criminalist in California's state department of justice in the San Francisco area, where she maintains a database of DNA samples. "You're given only a number of a sample" without any accompanying identifying information, she says of the cases that come into her lab. Her job is to look for DNA matches. "[Ultimately] when you find out the details of a specific case you've worked on, say, the murder of a child, you feel you've helped bring justice and closure to that family."



Photograph by Benjamin Rasmussen

Kaitlin Kratter '05

ASTROPHYSICIST

“When I got to college, I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do,” says astrophysicist Kaitlin Kratter. But during her first year at Barnard, she took two science courses. Then she heard about a summer research internship at the American Museum of Natural History. She got the internship—and it changed her career trajectory forever. Kratter spent two summers working at the museum. She completed her senior thesis project there, modeling the sensitivity of an instrument that images planets around distant stars; the device was

developed by astrophysicist and American Museum of Natural History curator Ben Oppenheimer. Her early research was illuminating. “At the museum, I really got a sense of what a career in astrophysics would look like,” she says. Now a Hubble Fellow at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Kratter researches binary-star systems and studies what happens to a planet’s orbit when it circles two stars. Her work made headlines last summer when she co-authored an analysis on the irregular orbits of Pluto’s newly discovered moons.



Photograph by Dustin Akland

Susan Schwartz-Giblin '59 & Marian Meyers '59

NEUROSCIENTIST & BIOCHEMIST

Susan Schwartz-Giblin planned to teach high-school science after graduation. Her mentor, biology professor Ingrith Deyrup, had another idea. “You’re going to graduate school,” Deyrup told her, and helped make it happen. Schwartz-Giblin earned a PhD in physiology from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She built a distinguished career as a researcher and professor, serving for 11 years as dean at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Schwartz-Giblin views mentorship as a most important responsibility. She counsels career-minded women:

You don’t have to choose between work and family. “There is no right time to have children—you make time. If the only women who had children were those with free time, it wouldn’t be a very interesting world.”

“When I was 12, I knew that I wanted to be a scientist,” says Marian Bennett Meyers, co-president of her class with Schwartz-Giblin. Her high-school chemistry teacher let her spend hours in the school’s lab each week. When she entered
Continued on Page 73



Professor Sloan in his Barnard office

AN IMMUTABLE DOCUMENT?

Professor Herbert Sloan considers Thomas Jefferson's ideas about the Constitution

It was a radical idea, then and now. Driven largely by his obsession with the problem of debt—both national and personal—then-U.S. minister to France Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to James Madison dated September 6, 1789, detailed a process by which the U.S. Constitution could be revisited, reconsidered, and recast for every generation. Writing from Paris, he said: *The question, whether one generation of men has a right to bind another, seems never to have been started either on this or our side of the water. Yet it is a question of such consequences as not only to merit decision, but place also among the fundamental principles of every government.*

Jefferson rejected the notion of a “perpetual Constitution” or even a “perpetual law.” The “living generation” must determine its own course, as Jefferson saw it, and not be burdened by the debts of the previous generation.

“Jefferson figured out the lifespan of a generation using demographic data available at the time,” says Herbert Sloan, professor of history at Barnard and author of *Principle and Interest: Thomas Jefferson and the Problem of Debt* (Oxford University Press, 1995). “He came to the conclusion that at the end of 19 years, half of the people living at the beginning of that 19-year period would be dead and replaced by another cohort. And that meant that whatever they had enacted no longer had any validity because it wasn’t the expressed will of those who were alive—the former majority no longer exists.”

The idea first came up in conversations Jefferson had been having while in Paris, and took shape as he considered the consequences of those conversations. “There were other aspects of context that play into this,” says Sloan. “Jefferson is worried about his own debts but he’s also interested in what’s going on in the French Revolution, and he’s interested in the work at that time in creating a new constitution for France. The debts of the

U.S. are also under consideration.” But Jefferson’s idea would go nowhere.

With the national debt now over \$16.3 trillion, what would Jefferson say of the fiscal problems the U.S. faces in 2013? In the wake of the recent spate of tragic mass shootings, how would he respond to those who strictly interpret the Second Amendment of the Constitution as a right to bear arms of all kinds even in non-military circumstances? We posed these questions and more to Sloan, a Barnard faculty member since 1986, who has spent the better part of the last 35 years studying and teaching Jefferson and the history of the U.S. Constitution.

You delivered a Constitution Day talk titled “Thomas Jefferson Was Right: We Need a New Constitution Every Generation.” Tell us a little more about this idea.

Jefferson felt very strongly that it wasn’t enough to say, “We’re satisfied with what we have.” Rather, he believed you had to go through the mechanics, create a new constitution, or somehow positively demonstrate that what you have works. It sounds so radical to talk about changing the U.S. Constitution, but most state constitutions have provisions that require reconsideration at fixed intervals. However, people don’t pay much attention to state constitutions—it’s the ultimate boring subject. Starting in the 1820s, state after state adopted provisions for periodic revisions of their constitutions. In New York, it’s every 20 years.

Also, the U.S. Constitution hasn’t always been quite as sacred as it is today. At the end of the 19th century, there were people calling for pretty dramatic changes to it. They were willing to fiddle with things. There were real amendments—on women’s suffrage and prohibition, for example. Teddy Roosevelt [president from 1901-1909] and others, like [the socialist and union leader] Eugene V. Debs were of the

[T]he U.S. Constitution hasn’t always been quite as sacred as it is today. At the end of the 19th century there were people calling for pretty dramatic changes.

attitude that the Constitution needed to be modernized. Charles Evans Hughes, as governor of New York from 1907 to 1910, talked about how we are governed by a constitution, but the Constitution is what the courts and judges say it is. Hughes became a justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, eventually chief justice.

When did the most significant shift to a more rigid and unchanging view of the Constitution occur?

The current phase of this is a post-1970 event. Until then, there was more flexibility about it in terms of attitude. In the last 30 years or so we’ve seen this resurgence of conservative understanding of what the Constitution is about. Today it’s a more impacted situation. People on the more progressive side are afraid of changing the Constitution because they worry that we might lose the Bill of Rights. If you’re on the right, there are different forms of “originalism,” interpreting and following only the Constitution’s original meaning and the intent of those who drafted it. Conservative interest groups have made successful efforts in supporting this understanding of how the Constitution should be interpreted.

What do you think Jefferson would make of all this recent talk about gun rights and the Second Amendment, especially given recent high-profile mass shootings, like the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut?

Continued on Page 74

A MILESTONE AT 40 YEARS

Barnard's groundbreaking Center for Toddler Development continues to meld creative play with academic research



In 1973, when she joined Barnard's toddler center, Patricia Henderson Shimm was definitely breaking new ground. Not only were there no other pre-school programs that specifically catered to the toddler set at that time, the very notion of sending 2-year-olds to nursery school was an entirely new concept. Just finding enough toddlers to get the center up and running was a major challenge. "It was basically unheard of," says Shimm, who was hired to serve as the center's founding teacher by its then director, the late Frances Schacter. An assistant psychology professor at the College, Schacter specialized in early-childhood development, as have subsequent directors, and conceived the idea for the center.

Shimm's original mandate was to create "a low-key play center" where parents could bring their youngsters two mornings a week and Barnard professors and students could study the toddlers' development, an important aspect of the center; at the time there was very little research being done on that specific age group. Research on toddler development



"Toddlers are very emotional creatures...[they] do all kinds of things that are baffling to adults." —Tovah Klein

Photos (from left): Patricia Henderson Shimm, founding teacher and associate director, and Tovah Klein, director, Barnard's Center for Toddler Development, with their young charges and student-teachers

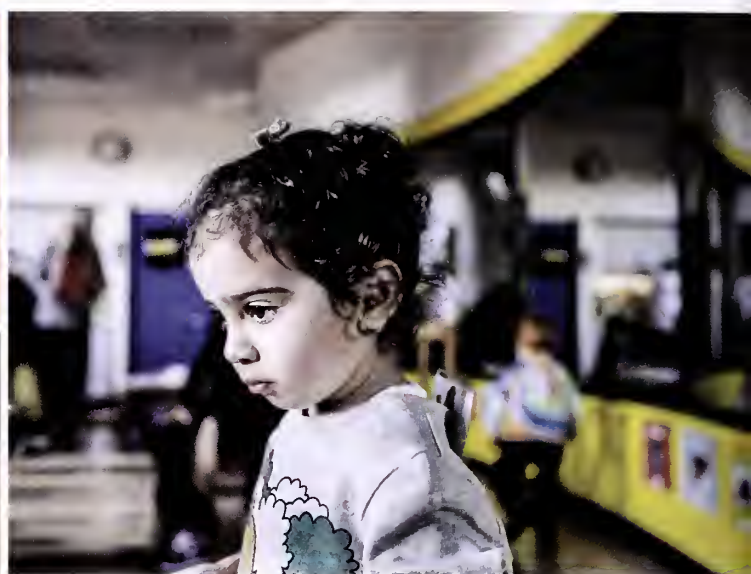
continues to play a vital role even as the facility encourages young children to learn through creative play and activities. All students who work at the center, which is affiliated with Barnard's psychology department, are enrolled in an eight-credit yearlong course. Undergraduate and graduate students, researchers, and educational specialists from around the world are frequent visitors and observers as well.

Persuading parents to sign up their toddlers took some real doing. "At first, no one came," says Shimm, who remembers literally standing outside the Barnard campus on Broadway in hopes of finding mothers with children to fill the center's ranks. Thanks to her recruiting efforts, the fledgling institution ultimately managed to attract seven toddlers in its kick-off year, including a few children of Barnard professors. In the ensuing years word about the center's toddler program continued to spread.

Fast-forward several decades, and the center, marking its 40th anniversary this year, has clearly overcome any

recruiting challenges. From the initial seven youngsters, the facility has a current enrollment of 50 and a long waiting list of prospective applicants. It has also expanded its offerings to include both morning and afternoon sessions, and expanded the age range, now encompassing toddlers from 1½ to 3 years old. During this time, the center has become a model for many new toddler-care facilities in the United States and abroad and is used by nearly 300 psychology students a year to learn about child development. Under Tovah Klein, who has a PhD in psychology and became director in 1995, the Center for Toddler Development has continued to build on its sterling reputation for providing a rich, nurturing learning environment for toddlers while also doing first-rate research on early-childhood development and play as well as on parenting.

Additionally, its popularity with local parents, including high-profile New Yorkers such as actress Sarah Jessica Parker and journalists Juju Chang and Maria Hinojosa '84, has



continued to grow. “I was really grateful for the experience,” says Parker, the mother of three center alumni, who believes the tools she picked up from the staff on how to communicate with her children and establish routines have been invaluable. “We’ve used those tools every day as parents,” she says. She thought so highly of the center that she also recommended it to her brother and sister, both of whom sent their children there.

Based on the thinking of giants in education and child development such as John Dewey and Jean Piaget, early-childhood education experts have long maintained that children should be active participants in the learning process. Over the years, the center has strived to put that idea into practice. Rather than setting up a highly structured program of activities and lessons, it follows the lead of the learner, notes Klein, and gives children much wider latitude to pick the sorts of toys or activities that they’re most drawn to, from playing with a train set or in a pretend kitchen, to painting pictures or just browsing through a book. “It’s not about direct teaching,” says Klein. “The whole idea is to let children explore and act on their own choices and desires.”

“Children are not just empty vessels—they’re discoverers and explorers,” agrees Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, an expert in early

childhood development at Temple University in Philadelphia, who adds that the Toddler Center has been a leader in showing how best to inspire curiosity about the world and help kids build an early passion for learning. “It really epitomizes discovery learning,” says Hirsh-Pasek. “The center shows how to do it right, and do it best.”

Having spent nearly two decades working closely with these children and doing research on this key developmental stage, Klein can attest to the fact that 2 and 3 are challenging ages, since they are the ones at which children are just beginning the process of separating from parents and developing a sense of their own independence. Part of the center’s mission is to make that transition a little easier, and help young children develop a sound emotional base. “In order for a child to separate [from his or her parents] in a healthy way you have to build trust first,” says Klein. One of the center’s main concerns is to reassure the children that mommy or daddy will always come back, ideas based in attachment theory, originated by psychology theorists John Bowlby and Mary Ainsworth.

The staff also takes a compassionate view of what can often be mercurial behavior. “Toddlers are very emotional creatures,” adds Klein, noting that they can be filled with joy



"Just being able to understand what was going on helped my toddlers get through [the terrible twos] and helped me get through [them] too."

—Emily Yang '94

one minute and sad or angry the next and "do all kinds of things that are baffling to adults. . . . We try to be accepting of who they are and where they are," she says. "It's very much about moving with whatever's going on for that individual at that moment."

If a child is throwing things, a center staffer will provide a bucket and tell him or her to throw the object in it. Or if one child grabs another's toy, the staff will validate how badly the child wanted that toy, only later suggesting gently that child give it back when he or she is done. They'll also tell children whose toys are being targeted that it's okay to hold on tightly and not give their playthings up. "We put a lot of emphasis on [sensitively] dealing with emotions," says Shimm, who now serves as the center's associate director. "We don't want to humiliate the bully or the wimp."

Patricia Hanley, one of two head teachers, says the center's ability to give children individualized attention definitely sets it apart. "We're really able to focus on knowing who each child is," she says and notes that thanks to a steady supply of Barnard and Columbia student teachers, they are able to maintain a ratio of roughly one adult for every two toddlers. "We couldn't have this program without students,"

Continued on Page 74



Photos: Parents and researchers can observe the toddlers in the center's glass-enclosed room, opposite left. Student-teacher Catherine Rawls, top, encourages creativity.



We Never Stop Learning

No matter what your age, we all want to keep moving forward. We all want progress, in our own lives and in the world at large. One of the joys of my presidency has been speaking to alumnae who are engaged in the world and interested in learning. One of the major strategic goals of the AABC was to create programs that would engage alumnae and reconnect them to the college. We have had several very successful programs. Alumnae have returned to the classroom in record numbers, and thanks to the digital age, this classroom is now accessible to alumnae who live around the globe.

Recently, I had the opportunity to watch excerpts from Professor Mary Gordon's online course, *The Modern Novel*, and saw exactly how alumnae of all ages participated virtually. Forty alumnae took the full course, listening to 10 taped lectures and participating in five real-time webinars. Some submitted journal entries to Professor Gordon for her response and comments; most alumnae enrolled for the lectures and webinars only. It was fascinating to see and hear the online discussion between Professor Gordon and her "students." Off to the side, there were alumnae "speaking" with each other and asking insightful questions.

In another first for Barnard, 21 alumnae took a 10-week on-campus course, *Revisiting the Classics: Origins to the Renaissance*, taught by members of the Barnard English and classics departments. This course proved so popular that it will continue in the spring as *Revisiting the Classics: Enlightenment to Postmodernism*.

Taking advantage of the art world in New York, *Conversations in Contemporary Art*, has been offered three times, and two sections will be offered in the spring. Taught by critic, editor, and curator Kathleen Madden '92, the course brings alumnae to studios, galleries, and museums to learn how to ask key questions when talking about today's art.

Alumnae also had the opportunity to talk about their personal stories as they studied memoir writing with Erica Mann Jong '63. At the conclusion of her popular writing course in the fall of 2011, class members decided to keep up the conversation with regular meetings of a Barnard writers group.

Throughout the year, talks by visiting speakers and distinguished alumnae are available to anyone with online access. Wherever you are, you can listen to Dr. Helene Gayle '76, president of CARE USA, speak on issues in global health or hear a reading by author Edwidge Danticat '90, who spoke on campus about "creating dangerously," via Barnard's YouTube channel. Of course, people all over the world cheered along online as President Obama advised the Barnard graduating Class of 2012 to "fight for your seat at the head of the table." Whether you were watching at home, at work, or at the sold-out party in midtown Manhattan, alumnae everywhere could share their Barnard pride as the President of the United States spoke at Commencement.

How exciting to explore worlds past, present, and future through literature and art, guided by Barnard's amazing faculty, and to have the opportunity to share ideas with other Barnard women, just as we did as students. With digital tools, alumnae can share in these experiences wherever they live.

Take a moment and check in with Barnard this year. Remember what it was like to discover new ideas or delve into a topic in a new and interesting way. The College for extraordinary women is also the College of extraordinary alumnae who never stop learning.

All my best wishes,
Mary Ann LoFrumento '77

Elections

The Nominating Committee of the Alumnae Association of Barnard College submits for your consideration the following slate of candidates to fill each of the positions that will become vacant on July 1, 2013. The committee nominates one person for each position; six candidates have been nominated for three places on the nine-member Nominating Committee. Thank you to the three outgoing members of the Nominating Committee: Ula Lysniak '87, Deborah Newman Shapiro '79, and Myra Kovey '65 (chair of the committee this year). Thank you to our outgoing board members for leadership in the Alumnae Association: Alumnae Trustee Judith Daynard Boies '59, Annual Giving Committee Chair Daphne Fodor Philipson '69, Bylaws Chair Lois Lempel Weinroth '63, Reunion Committee Chair Pat Tinto '76, Fellowship Committee Chair Kimberlee Halligan '75, and Director-at-Large/Awards Committee Chair Barbi Appelquist '98.

VOTE

A postcard ballot is included in this issue. Please mail completed ballots OR vote online via alum.barnard.edu no later than May 1, 2013. Results will be shared at the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2013 during Reunion.

GET INVOLVED

For information on how you can be involved with Barnard through the Alumnae Association, please visit alum.barnard.edu/aabc. Committee memberships begin July 1 and terms run for three years. If you are interested in joining an AABC Committee, or want to learn more about volunteering, please contact alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu or call 212-854-2005.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALUMNAE TRUSTEE



CAMILLE KIELY KELLEHER

'70 majored in political science and earned an MBA from Columbia. She served several

terms as alumna president of her class and on the Project Continuum Committee; she also helped design the financial fluency program, now part of the Athena Center. Camille has spent much of her career in financial services as an equity portfolio manager for institutional and high net worth clients at firms such as Citibank, S.G. Warburg, and Brown Brothers Harriman. She is on the board of the Yorkville Common Pantry and the St. Benedict Education Fund, and active in the Order of Malta. She and her husband, Rory, have three grown children.

ANNUAL GIVING COMMITTEE CHAIR



LINDA SWEET '63 is a

partner, since 1984, in Management Consultants for the Arts, specializing in

executive search for top management and professional personnel for museums as well as in strategic planning, board development, and organizational analysis. She majored in art history at Barnard, received a master's from NYU, and a certificate from Columbia's business school's Institute for Not-for-Profit Management. She is a past president of ArtTable, and a former member of the collections committee of the Grey Art Gallery of NYU. At Barnard, she was chair of the Leadership Assembly Committee and is currently a member of the Annual Giving Committee and the Fellowship Committee. She is also a board member of the Greater Hudson Heritage Network.

BYLAWS CHAIR



ROSALIND MARSHACK

GORDON '62, an American studies major at Barnard, has practiced law for 40 years. For the past 20 years she has been vice president and deputy general counsel at Pitney Bowes. She has served as Nominating Committee Chair and Bylaws Chair of the

AABC and as treasurer and Reunion co-chair of her class. At her 50th reunion, Roz received the Award for Service to Barnard. She lives in Larchmont with her husband, and has three children and three grandchildren.

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIR



MERRI ROSENBERG '78, a

French major, is a freelance writer and editor whose work appears regularly in *Barnard*

Magazine and *Education Update*. She has also been a regular contributor to *The New York Times*, *Jewish Week*, and other publications. Married with two grown children, Merri earned a master's in French and Romance philology from Columbia and an MS from Columbia's journalism school. Currently a Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative (BAAR), member of the AABC Reunion Committee, and Networking co-chair for her class, Merri recently served as chair of the Leadership Assembly Committee and a member of the AABC Board of Directors. She has also been president of the Barnard in Westchester Club, and a member of the AABC Nominating Committee.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR



MELISSA NATHANSON '78

received her JD from New York University School of Law and was a senior vice

president at Lehman Brothers until 2004. She has served on the Barnard Fund Committee, the President's Advisory Council, and the Barnard Fellowship Committee. She and her husband, Eric Freedman, live in New York City.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

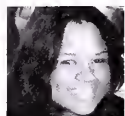


LEILA BASSI '94 majored in political science and also holds an MBA from Columbia's business school. She has

previous work experience in the media business and in financial services. Leila currently lives in London with her husband and two young children. She has served as the president of the Barnard Club of London for the last several years.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

The three alumnae elected from the six candidates below will join Francine Glick '77, Sharon Johnson '85, Soo Ji Park '90, Glenda Smiley '09, Ruth Klein Stein '62, and Jan Vinokour '72 on the Nominating Committee next year. Please vote for up to three of the following candidates for the AABC Nominating Committee:



VANESSA ANDERSON '07 is the owner of AM PR Group, a boutique public relations agency based in Los Angeles, where she works with a range of clients, from musicians to nonprofit organizations. At Barnard, Vanessa was president of BOSS, co-chair of Celebration of Black Womanhood Week, co-creator and member of the Presidential Advisory Committee, co-founder of the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort, student representative for the Consortium on Higher Achievement & Success, and an active participant in community events.



SHILPA BAHRI '99 began her career at Merrill Lynch as an investment banker, and transitioned to teaching accounting and finance. She has developed and taught curriculum to new hires, MBAs, and senior executives at Wall Street firms. Shilpa served as chair of the Young Alumnae Committee and is vice president of her class. She lives in Great Neck, where she cares for her elderly parents.



MIRI CYPERS '08 majored in Asian and Middle Eastern cultures and serves as the Class of 2008 fund chair and a Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative (BAAR). She has been a member of the Barnard-in-Washington board in Washington, D.C., for four years and founded the club's first mentoring program. Miri is a policy and advocacy professional at Jewish Women International and previously worked as a legislative aide in the U.S. House of Representatives.



NANCY DUBLER '64 is an attorney and professor emerita of bioethics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She works as a consultant for the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, coordinating the work of clinical ethics consultants at the city's public hospitals and nursing homes. Her work and publications address fair allocation of health-care resources, rights and interests of patients and families, and bioethics mediation. She and her husband live in Manhattan and have five grandchildren.



LISA GOTTARDO '87 is an executive director in international-equity sales with E.S. Financial Services. Lisa has over 20 years of experience in international equities and has worked at Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse. She also volunteers as a college counselor. Lisa is a Barnard Alumnae Admissions Representative (BAAR), co-president of her class, and was formerly co-head of the Barnard Club of London. Her daughter, Francesca, graduated from Barnard in 2011. Lisa lives in Manhattan.



SUSAN SOMMER KLAPKIN '76 was a psychology and economics major. She has been in the fashion business since graduating and is now an independent consultant for J. Hilburn Mens Clothiers and vice president at MHR Apparel Group. For three years, Susan has been a mentor to a Barnard student. She is past president of the Barnard Club of Connecticut, and board member for the Barnard Club of Central New Jersey. Susan served on the AABC as chairwoman of the Regional Advisory Committee. She lives in central New Jersey with her husband and three dogs.

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to further the interests of the College and connect alumnae worldwide. Learn more online at alum.barnard.edu.

PRESIDENT & ALUMNAE TRUSTEE
Mary Ann LoFrumento '77

VICE PRESIDENT
Terry Newman '79

TREASURER
Emily Peterson Alva '96

ALUMNAE TRUSTEES
Judith Daynard Boies '59
Myrna Fishman Fawcett '70
Jyoti Menon '01

BYLAWS CHAIR
Lois Lempel Weinroth '63

BARNARD FUND COMMITTEE CHAIR
Daphne Fodor Philipson '69

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Barbi Appelquist '98

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/ALMA MATERS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Mew Chiu '95

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE/PROJECT CONTINUUM COMMITTEE CHAIR
Joan Sweet Jankell '58

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR
Kimberlee Halligan '75

LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE CHAIR
Nicole Lowen Vianna '81

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR
Myra Kovey '65

PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR
Maryam Banikarim '89

REGIONAL NETWORKS CHAIR
Carole LoConte Tedesco '89

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIR
Patricia Tinto '76

YOUNG ALUMNAE COMMITTEE CHAIR
Pamela Wiznitzer '07

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Jung Hee Hyun '13

ALUMNAE AFFAIRS

The Alumnae Affairs staff work closely with students and alumnae volunteers to carry out program initiatives and further the mission of the Alumnae Association.

DIRECTOR
Erin Fredrick '01

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Carly Sorscher

PROGRAM MANAGERS
Celeste Rivera '04
Faith Rusk '10
Susan A. Seigle '67

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
Kathleen Christatos '07

DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT
Hayley Peterson '12

BALLOT

Alumnae Association of Barnard College

This ballot has been prepared by the Alumnae Association of Barnard College nominating committee. No independent petitions have been received. Each alumna may vote once, either online or by returning this postcard. Vote for your candidate by marking an "x" in the box to the left of her name. The ballot must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2013. Results will be announced at the Alumnae Association Annual Meeting on June 1, 2013.

Board of Directors

Vote for one candidate for each office

Alumnae Trustee

☐ Camille Kiely Kelleher '70

Annual Giving Committee Chair

☐ Linda Sweet '63

Bylaws Chair

☐ Rosalind Marshack Gordon '62

Reunion Committee Chair

☐ Merri Rosenberg '78

Fellowship Committee Chair

☐ Melissa Nathanson '78

Director-at-Large

☐ Leila Bassi '94

Nominating Committee

Members / 3 years

Vote for three

☐ Vanessa Anderson '07

☐ Shilpa Bahri '99

☐ Miri Cypers '08

☐ Nancy Dubler '64

☐ Lisa Gottardo '87

☐ Susan Sommer Klapkin '76

Members of the 2012–2013 Nominating Committee:

Myra Kovey '65, Ula Lysniak '87, Deborah Newman Shapiro '79, Francine Glick '77, Sharon Johnson '85, Soo Ji Park '90, Glenda Smiley '09, Ruth Klein Stein '62, and Jan Vinokour '72

Italics denote outgoing members.



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ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
BARNARD COLLEGE
3009 BROADWAY
NEW YORK NY 10027-9904



CLASS NOTES

For classes without correspondents, send notes to:

Abigail Beshkin
Barnard Magazine
 Vagelos Alumnae Center
 Barnard College
 3009 Broadway
 New York, NY 10027-6598
 cnotes@barnard.edu

35

Marjorie Kimont Lathrop passed away on November 12 in Scotch Plains, N.J., at the age of 99. The daughter of the late William P. and Margaret Sweeney Kimont, she was born in Mechanicville, N.Y., in 1913. She was the first member of her family to attend college. After graduation from Barnard, she became a high school history teacher in Ellenville, N.Y., and served for many years as a volunteer at the Ellenville Community Hospital and the well-baby clinic.

39

Helen Bleibler Hetherington died October 17 at 94. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, she majored in zoology. After graduation, she returned to her hometown of Dallas, and taught middle school science for more than 30 years at the Hockaday School. After her retirement, she taught English as a second language to young mothers and was active in the Presbyterian church. At age 80, she moved to Little Rock to be near her youngest daughter. She is survived by four daughters, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Paula Kassell died in August at the age of 94. A longtime advocate for women's rights, she challenged *The New York Times's* policy on women's titles, leading the paper in 1986 to drop "Mrs." and refer to women—married or not—as "Ms." She founded *New Directions for Women*, one of the longest-running feminist publications, and created the Morris County, N.J. chapter of the National Organization for Women. In 2004, she became the first recipient of Barnard's Millicent Carey McIntosh Feminism Award. She is survived by a son and two grandchildren.

34

Jane Stein Aberlin died on October 19 at the age of 97. She was especially active in the growth of the JCC of Staten Island, which was named for her husband, Isador Aberlin. A former columnist for the *Staten Island Advance*, she penned a reminiscence of her Barnard graduation day. An excerpt: "Under our heavy gowns were the requisite dresses, girdles, garters, and stockings....Our shoes felt so tight that one by one we all quietly slipped out of them for a little relief. It finally ended.... Then disaster struck! Our feet had swelled from the heat and not one person could get their shoes back on! Several thousand graduates were impatiently waiting for us to lead the way out. We looked at one another in desperation. Then we bent over as one, reaching down and tightly clutching shoes in hand, trudged through hallowed halls onto cobblestone streets in stockings or barefoot."

38

We have had one prompt reply to **Vera Halper Schiller's** reminder that our 75th reunion is coming up in 2013. **Helen Hirsch Acker** sends her best wishes to all classmates but, I am sorry to report, will be unable to attend. Many of us remember the lovely party she hosted for our class some years ago. Helen is still living in the Manhattan apartment where she entertained us, and I am sorry she won't be with us for reunion. How about the rest of you?

Barbara Lake Dolgin
 150 West End Avenue, Apt. 18D
 New York, NY 10023
 212.874.3234
 bdolgin@alum.barnard.edu

40

Agnes Cassidy Serbaroli passed away in her home on September 27 at 94. Her family writes: "Agnes lived a full and healthy life as a pianist and singer, and later as a New York City public school

music teacher and guidance counselor. She will be missed by her two sons, their wives, and her three granddaughters Adrienne Serbaroli '02, Elise Serbaroli '06, and Alessandra Serbaroli. Agnes remained active in the alumnae network through her roles as president of the class of 1940 and class correspondent, a position she held in the 1990s and early 2000s. She also helped organize her class's 55th, 60th, and 65th reunions. She looked forward to each of the many reunions she attended, especially those she attended with her granddaughters.

42

Mabel Campbell is still trying to learn how to use a computer.

Helen Baker Cushman is in good health and looking for a new challenge since she has retired recently.

Glafyra Fernandez Ennis has taken up the piano and no longer competes in badminton tournaments.

Mabel Schubert Foust enjoys her apartment across the street from the Atlantic Ocean. She still visits the thrift shop in Boca Raton, Fla. that she used to run.

Betty Bayer Menke of Scarsdale died October 6 at the age of 92. She earned her degree in psychology, married John Menke in 1945, and moved to Oak Ridge, Tenn. Betty held several leadership positions in civic organizations and was active in the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. In 1996, the Menkes moved to the Osborn in Rye, where Betty was president of the Sterling Park Residents Association. She is survived by her children, Ellen and David, her daughter-in-law, Elvi, and three grandchildren.

Virginia Rogers Cushing
3124 Greenfield Road, Apt. KC 421
Silver Spring, MD 20904
301.847.0351

70th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

43

Reunion is May 30–June 2, 2013. Have you made plans to attend? I am sure there will be other reminders, but for those of you living at a distance, travel may be a key issue.

A note from **Judy Protas** says that she is homebound. We will miss her.

Nina Diamond Fieldsteel's children will be going to Belgium with her. She writes: "Three years ago I went to France alone to look at some art I loved. Now I think it is not prudent to travel alone. We had to schedule in accordance with their (her son's and daughter's) academic calendars. They teach at different universities in Connecticut. The end of May was the earliest they had time off at the same time."

Verna Tamborelle Beaver and I have been in touch over the Class of '43 scholarship. A conversation with **Carol Hawkes** enlightened me on the subject. As I now understand it, the goal set when the idea was conceived was \$100,000. Monies designated for the '43 Scholarship Fund are added to it, but we are still short of our goal by a little over \$10,000. So if you respond to **Sophie Vrahnos Louros's** letter, we thank you and hope that you designate your contribution specifically for the Scholarship Fund, inserting a "43" appropriately.

Take a moment and phone, e-mail, or write to tell me something that you would like to share with your classmates.

Elfriede Thiele Kelso
101 Brooksby Village Drive, Unit 406
Peabody, MA 01960
978.854.5965
etkelso@aol.com

44

Dorothy H.L. Carroll died March 24 in her former Quaker meeting house, her home for 63 years. After Barnard, she started teaching and went on to earn a master's and doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. She had a lifelong

interest in reevaluation counseling, and for 22 years was editor of the reevaluation-counseling magazine, *Older and Bolder*. She led a workshop at her Quaker meeting, "Whites Working to End Racism." Devoted to Barnard, she filled several class offices including chair of our last reunion. Dorothy is survived by two sisters, five children, and extended family.

Marion La Fountain Stark
135 Franklin Avenue
Midland Park, NJ 07432-1955
prs1546@aol.com

45

A belated best holiday wish to all classmates.

Hope Simon Miller is in our class spotlight this issue. She is one who was always focused on what she wanted to achieve and pursued it with vigor and grace. At Barnard, Hope was a unique language major, concentrating her studies on Russian and Near East government, literature, and culture. Barnard did not have courses in Russian language at that time, so her advisor, Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, arranged for her to study Russian at Columbia and NYU, and to apply these credits toward her Barnard degree. This is another example of Dean Gildersleeve's administrative adaptability in opening academic opportunities to her students outside the Barnard gates. "Trained brains" was her motto, and I suspect that she foresaw a future contribution to world affairs by this bright, focused student. Hope obtained a master's degree from the School of Advanced International Studies affiliated with Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C. Her first career position was as executive director of the Institute of Comparative Government at Teachers College. Hope became a professional volunteer for the United Nations, running the U.S. Committee for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) for 10 years. She went on to be very active in the United Nations Association of the United States of America, which gave her a lifetime achievement award a year ago for her service as a board member, president, vice president of the

southern district of New York State, and delegate to international conferences of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. Hope was alumnae class president for five years, during which time she arranged many class luncheons in the Delegates Dining Room at the UN for us. In 1948, she married Dr. Arthur Miller, an obstetrician and gynecologist at NYU School of Medicine who died last year. They had three sons: Lane, consultant to the U.S. Department of Defense in Seattle; Lloyd, an attorney for Native American civil rights in Anchorage; and Scott who is deceased. We of Barnard Class of 1945 had a special tie with Arthur and Hope Miller. For 59 years, Hope has lived in a penthouse overlooking historic Gramercy Park. (Yes, she has a key to the private fenced park.) At our five-year reunions, after all the campus events would conclude, a convoy of taxis and private cars would go downtown to the Miller home, where we were welcomed by delicious spirits, and enjoyed letting our hair down and taking our shoes off, to reminisce about our days as college students. It was a party no one ever wanted to miss, and we all will remember it fondly. Thank you Hope and Arthur for all the good times.

Jacqueline Jump Kolb passed away on July 9 at her home in Seattle. Born and raised in Montana, Jacqueline entered Barnard as a transfer student and earned a BA in 1945 as a Russian major. She and her husband, Keith, moved to Seattle in the 1950s. Jacques became an active member of the Barnard Club into the 1990s, when matters of health limited her activities. The Kolbs and Dorothy (Dotty) Cohn Feldman '54 and her husband, Henry, were very close friends throughout the years. Jacques was a bright, witty, and warm woman who will be missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, her sons, Brooks and Bliss, a son-in-law, and a daughter-in-law.

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46

As I write this report about the wonderful members of our Class of 1946 that are

scattered all over the world, I am preparing for my first trip through the Panama Canal on Holland-America with my daughter, Susan Shaw. Susan writes books for the preadult genre. I have traveled with her twice before, and am looking forward to two weeks of adventure which includes stops in Mexico, Panama, Guatemala, and Colombia. We're traveling on the *Statendam*.

I recently spoke with Princeton dweller **Ann Keay Beneduce** who is very busy working with Eric Carle on his newest picture book. You may remember *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* or *The Very Clumsy Click Beetle*. As an editorial assistant for Philomel and Putnam, Ann has been involved in helping start a special museum in honor of the illustrator Tasha Tudor and her family in Brattleboro, Vt.

Ruth Margaretten Bilenker lives in Elizabeth, N.J., where she taught English, and continues her active role with the Jewish Family Services of Central New Jersey.

Both **Joy Drew Blazey** and **Dorothy Dieterle Adams** have enjoyed living in Hendersonville, N.C., since retirement, enjoying spectacular views of the Appalachian trail. Dorothy is still active with the tennis club and the P.E.O., an organization devoted to creating educational opportunities for women.

Dorothy Crane Brooke lives in San Francisco, and has recently traveled to Cuba. She is busy working as a supporter of the de Young museum and the Museum of Fine Arts.

Laura Frasca Bunt, whose home is in Tarrytown, N.Y., continues her tour-guiding activities at the Rockefeller estate in Pocantico Hills.

Joan Zeiger Dash has been having some back problems lately. Her husband died in 2011. Joan sees her children often. One lives in Seattle, nearby, and the other in Boston.

It was a joy to speak to **Barbara Kinney DeFranceaux** in Kensington, Md. She is celebrating her recent recovery from lung cancer, and in the past, breast cancer. She remembers with pleasure her studies with the legendary sociology professor Mirra Komarovsky. Barbara began her career as a couture buyer for Garfinckel's department store. Currently she is busy as a volunteer with the Diabetes Foundation in the D.C. area, and has worked with former congressman and

senator Richard Schweiker and actress Dina Merrill to raise awareness, and find a cure for that disease. She lives in her own granny suite with her daughter and son-in-law.

D. Florence Iseman Finn still lives in her Lansdowne, Pa. home where she entertained high school seniors with an eye to attending Barnard. She is in good health, and has two grown children, and two granddaughters.

Charlotte Beckwith Mitchell enjoys living in the Adirondacks. One of her six children married this summer in the family home. When not hosting family weddings, Charlotte enjoys playing piano and chamber music.

Mary Gwathmey Stillman has lived in Connecticut for 48 years where she raised her family, often spending part of the year in France. She now spends part of her winter in Paris. She has an apartment in the 16th *arrondissement*. You may find her there sitting in a café in the afternoon, sipping a cool drink, and enjoying the view. If you see her there, stop by and say hello. Mary has three grown children and three adored grandsons.

I spoke to **Joy Cosor Studley** who is happily retired in Weston, Fla. After Barnard, she studied law, but was drawn into the family business supplying bottled gas in upstate New York. After the business was sold, she and her husband retired to Florida. Since her husband's death, she is comforted by the closeness of friends and neighbors acquired over many years. Joy enjoyed playing golf, but regretfully gave it up last year. The lawyer gene persisted and her daughter, Jamienne Studley '72 who attended Barnard, is a practicing lawyer.

I found **Alice Durant Sykes** in LaHambra, Calif. She taught elementary school for 15 years in Fullerton, and managed to combine teaching with having six children: three boys and three girls. Alice traveled to Australia last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. She and her husband continue to enjoy the warm southern California climate.

What a wonderful Class of '46 collection of women! Have a great 2013!

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Evelyn Good White lives in Central Square, N.Y., which has a population of 3,000 (!) and is near Syracuse. During a recent telephone conversation, Evelyn told me about some of the great jobs she's had. She has degrees in education and library science and has taught in elementary school and also became a media specialist. Now that she has retired, she enjoys watching sports and is a fan of the New York Yankees.

Betty Troper Yager sent me a nice note telling me that she and her husband are living in a retirement community in Carmel, Calif. She says it's a "wonderful place" to live, and that she particularly enjoys playing duplicate bridge. Two of her sons live in southern California, and a third son lives in Canada, and they all enjoy family reunions in Carmel.

Meredith Nevins Mayer, our new class president, is a printmaker and a part-time monitor at the Manhattan Graphic Arts Center at which she is a member of the board of directors. Meredith particularly enjoys such art forms as silk screening, printmaking, and similar techniques. Previously, Meredith taught art at the Fieldston School. She has two daughters and a son. Jane Mayer is an investigative reporter at *The New Yorker* and has written several nonfiction books, including *The Dark Side*, for which she was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her other daughter is an analyst at Merrill Lynch, and her son is a professional pianist and teacher. Her husband, Bill, is also a musician and has composed an opera that is being produced in Europe.

On a sad note, **Anne Attura Paolucci** died on July 15. Anne was the author of over 20 books of plays, short stories, novels, poetry, and essays. (For a full obituary please see the Fall 2012 issue of *Barnard Magazine*.)

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We are gearing up our Reunion planning. As you read in the letter you received last October from our class president **Nora Robell**, we are arranging class events in addition to the program Barnard will offer Reunion weekend, Thursday, May 30, through Sunday, June 2. We appreciate the suggestions we received at our mini reunion at the College last November. We are especially grateful to those classmates who have volunteered their time and energy to serve as networkers so that each member of our class will get a personal letter or phone call from a fellow '48 alumna. If you would like to connect with a few classmates, phone me, your correspondent. Our honor roll of networkers will be recognized at our class dinner.

Our message: Please come to Barnard for this special celebration, Alive at 85. Bring a spouse, son or daughter, or significant other, or come alone and meet new friends you may or may not remember from college days. We guarantee you will happily connect with other Barnard women.

Nora's letter noted that we are planning a commemorative booklet that will include a page (8.5" x 11") from each of you. Tell us about your life, your family, career, special interests and activities—anything you care to share. Include a photo if you like. We'll do our best to reproduce your contribution. The resulting booklet will be a treasured memento of our 65th reunion. Time is short. Please send me your page no later than April 1. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number. Please join in this effort even if you are unable to attend Reunion.

We love to get enthusiastic news: **Dorothy Buschow Killackey** writes, "At 85, I published my first book, *Musings*, a compilation of short essays that were published in the last two and a half years in a local weekly in Westchester, N.Y. My essays draw from past experiences, usually in an upbeat way. I laugh at myself and at the sometimes-foolish choices I made. I also muse over problems in today's world and philosophize about today's culture. Readers tell me they enjoy the whimsical memories, yes, even of Barnard

days." The book is available from amazon.com. Dorothy reminds us that her two daughters, both doctors, are Barnard grads: Maureen Killackey '74 and Nancy Killackey '83.

Speaking of writers in our class, we obtained a copy of *My Afghanistan: Before the Taliban* by **Jean Wentworth Boyce-Smith**, which we told you about in the Summer 2012 issue of this magazine. We found it a fascinating, absorbing story, especially when reading it while glancing at TV coverage of today's Afghanistan some 60 years later.

Hilma Van Heek Orr, after living in New Jersey for 75 years, has moved to Ohio to be near her daughter. She explained: "The fact that a water main broke on a nearby street and put 30 inches of water in my basement aided the decision to move and explore the advantages of condo living. It is wonderful!" Before retiring, Hilma had been a teacher. She also has a son with a family in Connecticut.

Sadly, we learned of the death of **Marian Riegel Ross** on August 16. A West Side commuter student, Marian married and raised a family in New York and did substitute teaching until retirement when she and her husband, Irwin, moved to Florida. Never having crossed paths at Barnard, Marian and I forged a friendship in Florida, where we enjoyed dinners and shared common interests in world events, politics, theater and the arts, and travels. She attended our 60th reunion. I will miss her. She leaves two daughters, Amy and Aileen, her sons-in-law, and four grandchildren. Our class extends its condolences to her family and friends.

Last words: Sign up today to attend our 65th reunion. See you at Barnard on May 30!—FJA

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As I write this in early November 2012, we on the East Coast are slowly recovering from the effects of Hurricane Sandy. I spent five days, when the temperature

was unseasonably cold, with no power, no lights, no heat, and no hot food. Earlier in the fall, I accepted the chemistry department's invitation to witness the inauguration of the refurbished chemistry laboratories in Altschul Hall. I had seen the unfinished work and could appreciate the vast improvement. This costly renovation was largely financed by the National Science Foundation. This attention from the federal government seems to be an acknowledgement of the importance of training scientists at this time in the country. In October, I attended the 2012 Leadership Assembly. Presentations by Katherine Hanslits '13 and Rebecca Johnson '13 together with their mentors, Hilary Callahan, associate professor of biological sciences, and Christian Rojas, professor of chemistry, illustrated the close relationship between students and faculty that is possible at Barnard. The results of this type of research are published in professional journals with the students' names listed as coauthors. The main thrust of the Leadership Assembly is to encourage all of us alumnae to contribute financial help to Barnard. It was founded in 1889 as a great idea with very little money and it still suffers from its low endowment. We who benefited from this wonderful college need to keep giving back to it.

Mary Schofield Conway developed a tour for an exhibit based on Madeleine Albright's recent book *Read My Pins* at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, Calif., where Mary has been a docent for many years. Madeleine Albright, the former Secretary of State and United Nations envoy, explains in her book how she used her large collection of brooches and pins as diplomatic tools.

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Always Something New

Joan Lyttle Birman '48

If you'd just met Joan Birman, she probably wouldn't tell you that she was inducted into the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences this fall. She might not mention that her influential text, *Braids, Links, and Mapping Class Groups*, published in 1975, has introduced generations of researchers to braid theory, her mathematics specialty. That's because Birman has always been more interested in what she doesn't know than what she's already mastered.

Birman calls her academic career "unintentional." She had planned to work in the private sector; an engineering firm hired her to work out an industry problem soon after graduation. She says she enjoyed the work initially, finding it "very interesting until I solved the problem. Then it became very dull."

Then came children, and the need to take more college courses "just to keep my skills up." Birman thought she'd probably need more math training in order to stay employed in industry. And then something unexpected happened. "I became very interested in math for its own sake," she says. She went on to earn her MA from Columbia and a PhD from New York University's Courant Institute. She stayed in academia, developing a research specialty in braid and knot theory. A professor of mathematics at Barnard from 1973 until her retirement in 2004, she continued to do research at both Barnard and Columbia. Now semi-retired, she can spend more time on the part of math that she likes best—sharing knowledge with other researchers. "I think for me, the pleasure is when somebody uses your work and does something new with it."

Birman especially enjoys communing with colleagues—often they'll run into each other in the airport on the way to a conference and start talking math well before they even get there. She says her husband, City College CUNY physics professor Joseph Birman, whom she met at Columbia, feels the same way about his work. "We're like kids getting together and talking about baseball," Birman says. "My best friends are people I've worked with. You get to know somebody in a very deep way. It's a lot of fun." —Kim MacQueen



50

A year before we entered Barnard, Virginia Gildersleeve, dean of the College from 1911 until 1947, served at the San Francisco Conference held to draw up the charter for the United Nations. In 1948, a refugee from Hungary arrived in the United States, penniless, but she had a contact at the new UN who interceded on her behalf. As a result, **Vera Polgar John-Steiner** became a special student at Barnard, a member of the class of 1950. Her credentials already included courses in advanced mathematics, languages, and psychology from the University of Geneva. She became an *au pair* for a professor and

lived with the family on Morningside Drive. We saw very little of her, but she graduated in two years with our class. She has had a distinguished career. She earned her doctorate in psychology at the University of Chicago, with an emphasis on language development. Her work at UCLA and with a government program in language development among African American communities gave her a rich background in applying her ideas to real situations. At the University of New Mexico she served as a presidential professor in two departments—linguistics and education. With colleagues, she developed a program whose students came from foreign countries and the Peace Corps. Since retiring, she and Ruben Hersh have written *Loving and Hating Mathematics*, which is an outgrowth

of her long years in research. Vera lives in Santa Fe.

Nell Surber lived on the same floor as I did in Brooks Hall. She was an enjoyable neighbor, generous with her typewriter, and a source of good stories of her hometown of Hazard, Ky. Nell earned her law degree in Cincinnati, and had a long career in city government. On the Internet is a reference to the Nell Surber era, in which she directed a building expansion in the downtown area, which included the creation of notable walkways above the street level between buildings. Now retired, she and her partner, D. Kendall Cooper, have time for enjoying their home and art collection.

Silvia Pfeiffer Tennenbaum visited Frankfurt, Germany, where she was born, in order to share, for two weeks, in the celebration based on her novel *Yesterday's Streets*, published in 1981. The State of Hessen presented her with the Goethe Medal. She writes, "At the age of 84, I find that I have become a local hero in my hometown." Congratulations.

Laura Pienkny Zakin sent a great report of her meeting with **Marilyn Miller Flitterman** in Portugal, where Marilyn lives in Porto. She met Laura and her husband, Jack, at their hotel in Lisbon, sharing a long afternoon and evening.

Christina Lammers Hirschhorn has bought a condo in Windsor Gardens in Denver. She says it is her last move. —MCN

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51

Anne Keating passed away in September. After graduation, Anne had an impressive career in publishing. She was the original founder of *Smithsonian* magazine, developed and launched the *Wilson Quarterly*, a magazine for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars,

and served as a consultant to other prestigious publications. She relocated from the East Coast to Bainbridge Island, off the coast of Seattle, in 1994 at which time she began to attend meetings of the Barnard Club, and to host social gatherings for the club. In 2005, Anne moved to the Horizon House retirement community where she served as chair of the philanthropy committee and continued to host parties for our club. She was in failing health over the past few years, but when she answered a phone call with her melodious "hello," she made the caller feel as though she were on top of the world! She will be missed by all.

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52

Priscilla Redfearn Elfrey, class co-correspondent, continues to work for NASA in spite of an eye problem. She has praise for doctors at the Bascom-Palmer Eye Institute in Miami. This past summer she worked with interns and faculty from western tribal colleges. You can see their work at sisosmackdown.com.

Nan Heffelfinger Johnson says she and her husband had a wonderful October trip from Vienna to Budapest and Bucharest down the Danube, and on to Ankara, Turkey. Their son, Reed, is on the staff of the *Los Angeles Times*, and their daughter-in-law, Marla Dickerson, has recently been named business editor of the same newspaper. At the Susan B. Anthony Center, which Nan founded at the University of Rochester, a wonderful young woman, Dr. Catherine Cerulli, has been named the new director.

Carol Connors Krikun reports from New Jersey that this summer she had an absolutely wonderful trip to Sicily. After Hurricane Sandy, she had no electricity and heat. She says she's managed because of the kindness of a friend. She kept her mind on the wonderful trip to Sicily!

Alice (Ellie) Ribbink-Goslinga's assisted-living facility, Emmahof, in Amsterdam, is located near the Concert

Gebouw. Her granddaughters, Anna and Eva, go to school nearby and are frequent visitors, and Ellie travels to the U.S. once or twice a year to visit her daughter, Philippa Ribbink '85. Ellie would love to hear from any classmates visiting Amsterdam. If you're interested in calling her, please contact your class correspondent **Nancy Stone Hayward**.

In August, **Elizabeth (Bettina) Blake**, Nancy Stone Hayward, and **Claire Delage Metz**, met in Woods Hole, Mass., for what has become an annual luncheon. Claire's family vacations farther down the Cape; Nancy lives in Falmouth for three-quarters of the year, and Bettina comes down from Boston to her family cottage in North Falmouth. We had a lovely time with a good lunch and good conversation.

On October 25 and 26, Barnard held a leadership conference on campus at The Diana Center for class and regional officers and leaders. Class of '52 representatives on the 25th were **Marilyn Silver Lieberman**, class co-president, and **Millicent Lieberman Greenberg**, former class correspondent. Events centered on keeping alumnae connected to Barnard. President Debora Spar spoke, and videos of Barnard events on campus and around the world were shown. On the 26th, our representatives were **Marilyn Rich Rosenblatt**, class co-president, and Millicent Greenberg who attended presentations by Barnard leaders: a professor, a CEO, and a vice president for development.

Luncheon was accompanied by a conversation between Mary Ann LoFrumento '77, president of the Alumnae Association, and Linda Bell, provost and dean of the faculty. Fund-raising discussions followed, along with leadership debriefings, a closing reception, and a student performance by Bacchantae.

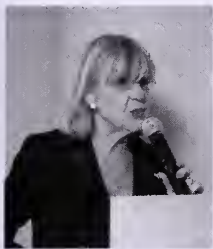
On a sad note, two classmates lost their spouses in October. Marilyn Lieberman lost her husband, Sy, on October 1. She and Sy had been inveterate travelers together. Millicent Greenberg's husband, Bill, died on October 7. Bill enjoyed attending many Barnard events. Our sincere condolences to both classmates and their families and friends. —NSH

Correction: The last issue of Class Notes misstated the name of an alumna. It is **Lucille Strick Becker**, not Louise Strick Becker. Also, she has four daughters and

one son, not four sons and one daughter.

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Harriet Newman Cohen '52

The legal rating service Super Lawyers has named Harriet Newman Cohen a Super Lawyer in her field

of matrimonial and family law, an honor she has received annually since 2005. A founding partner of Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann, she was also named to the 2012 Super Lawyers lists of Top 50 Women New York Lawyers and Top 100 New York Lawyers.

60th Reunion May 3–June 2, 2013

53

Our class reunion committee has developed a fabulous weekend to celebrate our 60th reunion.

Barbara (Bobbie) Glaser Sahlman will once again be hosting the get-together cocktail party on Thursday night in her glamorous apartment. Friday will be filled with events on campus, ending with a dinner, at which **Connie Alexander Krueger** will be the featured speaker.

Sunday we will be treated to our own tour of the Whitney Museum led by **Elise Alberts Pustilnik**, who is a docent there.

Put May 30–June 2 on your calendars, get your plane tickets if needed, and join us in a gala celebration.

Correction: The last issue of Class Notes misstated the name of **Joan Steckler Anderson's** new granddaughter. Her name is Noomi Marine Anderson.

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54

Arline Rosenberg Chambers has some good news for us. She has finally retired, as of May 15, from her career in arts management, which included managing The Music Center in Los Angeles, the Orange County Performing Arts Center, and 10 years working on a museum project with Disney Imagineering. "The last four years have been spent on my retirement job—managing the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony. My farewell party was May 4. Hooray!! My granddaughter is a 14-year-old championship-winning cheerleader. Please tell all that the Barnard Club of Los Angeles is the greatest group of women imaginable. Intergenerational (our oldest and very active member is 98) with interests in many areas, and caring—we are friends. The executive director and director of communications of the LA County Arts Commission are both Barnard grads. To make sure to keep the LA Jewish Symphony financially sound, I hired a (younger) Barnard pal as development director. One of our Barnard posse has recently put out a recording in tribute to jazz great Benny Carter, husband of another of our Barnard posse. Barnard truly made a difference that continues to resonate in my life.

Our president, **Arlene Kelley Winer**, was invited to attend the Commencement ceremonies in May and reports that it was a very exciting and historic experience to witness President Obama addressing the graduates. Arlene, **Ronda Shainmark Gelb**, **Joan Ghiselin**, **Suzanne Markovits Javitt**, **Marlene Ader Lerner**, and **Marcia Gusten Pundyk**, represented our class at the president's awards luncheon and all agreed that it was a fun get-together. They urge others to attend in 2013. Arlene has also reopened her oral

history project, begun at the Centennial, and interviewed a group of outstanding graduates of the classes of '47 and '42. She hopes to continue with our class in commemoration of our upcoming 60th in two years!

I was saddened to learn of the death of **Abby Blum Nusbaum**. A notice appeared in *The New York Times* on August 18. She died in California and there will be a memorial service in New York sometime in the future. I will be watching for that notice.

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55

Several classmates met for lunch at the Asia Society in New York this October. Enjoying the get-together were **Jane Were-Bey Gardner**, **Patricia Dykema Geisler**, **Carol Salomon Gold**, **Doris Joyner Griffin**, **Dawn Lille**, **Duane Lloyd Patterson**, **Marcella Jung Rosen**, **Ellen Blumenthal Sehgal**, **Louise Cohen Silverman**, and **Hessy Levinsons Taft**. Contact Jane Gardner at myblueboat@aol.com for details about future luncheons.

Carol Gold writes that last spring at the Barnard Gala at the Plaza, she met a charming Barnard freshman from Morocco with whom she chatted for a while and bonded quickly. The freshman mentioned that she had never been to a Broadway show, so after her finals, Carol took her to dinner and to see *Anything Goes*. A total success! Throughout the summer, they continued to communicate by e-mail, and after the student returned to New York, they had lunch to celebrate her 19th birthday. ("Oh to be young again!" says Carol.) Both were also happy that they could celebrate Thanksgiving with Carol's family in Connecticut. Carol encourages classmates and other alumnae who are in the New York City area to connect with Barnard undergrads from abroad.

Amelia Bleicher Winkler is delighted to announce that in January, Finishing Line Press will publish *Waking at Night*,

which she describes as "a 27-page potpourri of poems that reflect the major concerns of my life: aging, love, divorce, family, assimilation and the immigrant experience, sexuality, art, literature, travel, etc." (finishinglinepress.com) One critic notes that her poems are "at times ironic, always inquisitive [and] will satisfy all who love language laced with wit and insight." Although Amelia majored in French at Barnard, she always felt she was intended to be an English major. After receiving her master of arts in teaching from Manhattanville College, she was a high school English teacher in Buffalo and in Needham, Mass., and now teaches in writing programs cosponsored by Poets & Writers as well as the Arts and Culture Council of Greenburgh, N.Y. Her essays and articles have been published in *North County News*, *The Jewish Week*, *The New York Times*, and *Women's News*, as well as in corporate newsletters. After many years, she has returned to poetry, and her poems have appeared in *Big City Lit*, *Jewish Currents*, *Red Owl*, *The Westchester Review*, and other small presses and anthologies. Amelia, who lives in Mamaroneck, is the mother of three, and the grandmother of five.

Marcella Rosen adds to her update from the fall issue of the magazine about her organization Untold News that "*Tiny Dynamo*—a book about how Israel, one of the world's smallest countries, produced some of the most important inventions—has been published." Marcella has had speaking engagements in Princeton and Westport to discuss the publication, and Untold News now has over 75,000 fans on Facebook and 12 videos on YouTube.

Save Wednesday, March 6, for a class function at the New-York Historical Society that will include a docent tour of the WWII & NYC exhibit. We will also have the opportunity to hear from Vice President Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 and some current Barnard students.

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56

Sooner or later I'm going to die, but I'm not going to retire (Margaret Mead). That's my motto, and it seems to be that of many of our classmates as well. I'm still working part time as a writer and publishing consultant, and have just begun a new mentoring contract with a local author. I've delegated a lot of work to my famous cat, who has his own calendar, a popular blog, and his own YouTube channel with a video of him performing his tricks. The Web site belongs to him—simonteakettle.com—although I've managed to secure room for my books and a great deal of free information.

Toni Crowley Coffee reports that she's "retiring from retirement" having taken on a lot of volunteer jobs, especially at the League of Women Voters, when she stopped working on *Barnard Magazine* 10 years ago. Last year, she decided she wanted more time to enjoy New York and her family, and to spend significantly more time in England. In June, her son and his wife invited Toni to join them for a holiday at Yosemite, and in August, her daughters joined her for a lovely week in Ireland. She enjoys seeing grandchildren when they're available, and she was delighted to welcome her first great-grandchild in the fall. Toni is still working for Barnard, sharing the fund chair job for our class with **Sylvia Schor Boorstein** and **Judith Schwack Joseph**, serving on the overall reunion committee, and doing odd jobs when needed. She also volunteers at the New-York Historical Society.

Janet Bersin Finke writes: "Eight members of our class met at the New-York Historical Society for a mini reunion on November 14 to see the current exhibit, WWII & NYC. For most of us, a walk through the displays evoked vivid memories that poured out then and during the lunch that followed at the museum's Café Storico. Attending were: **Anna Schaffer Ascher**, **Diana Cohen Blumenthal**, Janet Finke, **Sifrah Sammel Hollander**, **Phyllis Jasspon Kelvin**, **Julia Keydel**, **Doris Nathan**, and **Gloria Richman Rinderman**. There were several others who couldn't join us, but expressed interest in attending class events. The most expeditious way to announce a gathering is by e-mail, so

if you'd like to join us in the future, please give your e-mail address to the Barnard alumnae office."

So how about you? Are any of you still working? How about volunteer jobs, travel, or hobbies you may have abandoned long ago that you've just revived? We always want to hear about your children and grandchildren, and any special projects you're working on. Please send your news!

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57

We received two extensive updates from classmates: From **Eva Kessler Bacal**: "I married Martin (CSGS) in 1958 and we have five children and six grandchildren. We live in his hometown of Tucson, Ariz. I was an elected school-board member for 12 years, and also served as chair of the National Council of Urban Boards of Education. In 1987, I went to law school with one of my children, graduating with honors in 1990. In all, three of my children are law grads, and two of them are now judges. Our second son has his own business, and our youngest is working on her PhD at Arizona State University. I worked as an Arizona assistant attorney general for 13 years and retired to run as the Democratic candidate for Congress in 2004. After losing and licking my wounds for a few months, I joined the public defender's office where I am still working defending juveniles. I am glad to report that Martin and I are still going strong. Although he retired from his business, he is a full-time volunteer with the Democratic party. The former state national committeeman, he is still actively involved. We are happy to hear from classmates when they visit Tucson—we are listed in the phone book, and I have a Facebook page (courtesy of my kids, of course)."

From **Wendy Wisan Baker**: "I have finally adjusted to living alone after 46 years of a wonderful marriage. Syd died in June 2010 and it took quite a while to accept and move on from this loss. I

continue to take classes at the Drisha Institute, where the delight of mental stimulation without heavy homework assignments is a pleasure. I still run the large food and clothing drives at my synagogue and supervise the twice-weekly bread distribution runs from an East Side bakery to various organizations that feed the hungry. I continue to serve on the boards of two synagogues and my co-op. New York City is a wonderful place in which to grow old. There is so much to do without the need for a car, as I no longer have a license thanks to macular degeneration. From my home on the Upper West Side, I am able to walk to the many concerts I have been attending since Syd's death. He was a musician who had been profoundly deaf for many years, so we no longer attended concerts. This year I attended the three concerts that the Chicago Symphony gave to open Carnegie Hall. It was fun, and nice to entertain several of the trumpet-section members who had interviewed Syd some years ago on his experiences as first trumpet in the orchestra in the 1940's (with time out for service in World War II). Recently my granddaughter and her husband visited on their way home from their honeymoon in Mexico. I have five grandchildren ranging from ages 1 to 30."

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55th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

58

This past summer, my husband, Gerry, and I made a long overdue visit to my younger daughter, Sharon, who lives on Orcas Island (in the San Juan chain, in the midst of Puget Sound, about 80 miles north of Seattle). We toured the island, and attended a vast number of lectures and concerts—both orchestral and vocal.

Anita Trachtman Gropper-Westin divides her time among Cape Cod, Florida,

and Poughkeepsie. She has an extended family of children and grandchildren (four children and one stepchild), and delights in maintaining traditional family values. She still has her printing business, which her family has had for about 50 years. Her youngest son runs it.

Janet Burroway e-mails that she is the author of eight novels, plus plays, poetry, essays, texts for dance, and children's books. She is the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor Emerita at Florida State University, and divides her time among Chicago, Florida, and Wisconsin.

Judith Eckman-Jadow writes: "I am a psychologist/psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City. I am currently working via Skype as part of a psychoanalytic institute in China. My husband, Julian (CC '56), and I have just celebrated our 35th anniversary. We have four children, the youngest of whom was adopted as an infant from China."

Lois Weissman Stern emailed that she has been fascinated by beauty—physical, inner, and inspirational. She continues her efforts to encourage the latter through her books. She invites authors to send in their most inspiring stories to her web site: tales2inspire.com.

Vicki Wolf Cobb writes about her start-up business, INK Think Tank, which helps schools secure nonfiction children's book authors as guest speakers. She is optimistic about the future because many states are now stressing nonfiction high school reading. The only difference in starting a business in your seventies is that you don't have 30 years to watch it grow up.

My fondest best wishes for a hurricane-free new year. I hope to see you all at Reunion. You received information in the last issue about **Jane Epstein Blumenfeld** and **Nancy Morse. Joan Sweet Jankell** is also involved in some exciting plans. —BBW

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59

Carol Herman Cohen submitted the 2011-2012 official figures for our fund-raising. "We raised \$79,266 and 53 percent of our class gave a gift. That participation rate was double the average across all Barnard alumnae. Half of the donors in our class have given consistently 10 or more years and an amazing 17 percent have given consistently for 30-plus years. We should feel proud of our efforts."

In August 2012, my husband, Joe, and I traveled to Papua New Guinea, the second largest island in the world. We flew into the remote interior by small charter plane. The island has more than 4 million people who speak 700 unique languages. Every day we visited local tribes. The daily existence of the tribes is almost the same as it has been for the past 10,000 years. Papua New Guinea is considered a successful society as its people survive on available resources without depleting those resources. It was an amazing adventure. I sent **Judith Weber Taylor** a short slide show via e-mail and she suggested I offer our class a chance to see the pictures. If you are interested, just contact me.

Firth Haring Fabend informs us that "My 11th book, *New Netherland in a Nutshell*, will be published in November 2012 by the New Netherland Institute in Albany. The subtitle is: *A Concise History of the Dutch Colony in North America*. A fond nod to the memory of Professor J.A. Kouwenhoven who steered me in this direction many years ago."

Judith Basch Shapiro, a music major while at Barnard, lives in Maryland and taught at American University, but now, "I have a home studio where I teach." Anyone interested in the Washington, D.C. area for information on colleges is welcome to contact her.

While **Susan Levitt Stamberg** does not have a set air schedule on NPR and appears at random, usually about once a week, you will be in for a treat if you catch her interviews.

The Louise McCagg Gallery at Barnard, named for **Louise Heublein McCagg**, is a beautiful area for the many art shows scheduled. Perhaps a group of us could plan a date to meet there. If interested please contact us. Please share your

updates with us. We look forward to hearing from you. —RJE

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60

Since **Berl Mendelson Hartman** was in New York City (along with me, JLT) for the annual Barnard Leadership Assembly, and staying at **Sara Singman Silbiger's**, Berl and Sara invited whomever they could think of for lunch at Sara's. So we had a mini-reunion with 16 members of our class, and e-mail from others.

Emily Fowler Omura: "I am going to be spending more time in the city than I have in many years, because my daughter still has her apartment on Grand Street, and I can stay there periodically—such as during the New York City Ballet seasons! You know, they say the reason to have children is so you get grandchildren! (Also, they're not called grand for nothin'!) Mine all live in New Paltz, N.Y. and Portland, Ore., but that's not ALL bad either!"

Emily Shappell Edelman: "I am having the time of my life with the return of my daughter with her son, who is now 3 years old. They have been living with us since he was a month old. My other grandchildren live in England, and the grandparent experience was very limited. But what a treat it has been to live with Jonah, my little guy! Now I know what it's like to be a grandma."

Andrea Penkower Rosen and husband, David, are launching a new Web site: penrosejudaica.com.

Ann Levy Lewin: "I was invited by Northwest University of the Nationalities in Lanzhou, China to work with music teachers and students who want to learn western opera. There is no one there who can do coaching, which is what I have been doing for decades. So, I was there

for a few weeks in June, and managed to put on a concert of opera duets and solos, with very little time to prepare and rehearse. It went extremely well. They then appointed me as a visiting professor, so I will be going back to do more in the future."

Linda Kaufman Kerber: "I've embarked on what my university calls retirement and I call liberation. I'm already enjoying my freedom from the academic calendar, with time for writing, for travel, for grandchildren. Dick is still happily practicing cardiology, but with more flexibility and more time for music. My most recent essay, 'Why Diamonds Really Are A Girl's Best Friend: Another American Narrative,' appeared in the fall 2011 issue of *Daedalus*; it is the core of the book which I am now writing. A World of Citizens, a symposium in October at the University of Iowa, brought together students, colleagues, and friends to share recent scholarship on the rights, obligations, and complexities of citizenship, especially as experienced by women—themes that have been central to my work as a historian. It was a special pleasure that the wise and witty toast at the celebratory banquet was by our classmate **Rosellen (Posey) Brown**. She ended with a haiku by the seventeenth-century Japanese master Basho, to be savored by all of us as we think about time and change: 'Barn burned down. Now we can see the moon.'" —JLT

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61

In the October 8 issue of *The New Yorker*, Patricia Marx writes about Baby Boomers and how they are managing retirement by hiring coaches. She elaborates, "A retirement coach is a cheerleader whose entire team is you." Unlike the Boomers,

we seem to be figuring it out ourselves. I asked our classmates if they had a plan for retirement, or did they find one after the fact. Thanks to all of you who responded.

Maxine (Ziva) Amishai-Maisels retired from Hebrew University in Israel where she was a professor of art history. She had hoped to write a book on Gauguin, but she's been too busy supervising theses and dissertations, creating a course for the Open University, writing articles, and lecturing. Maxine observes, "The only part of the plan that worked is spending more time with my family."

Marilyn Martin Fricker, who retired in 2000 from her legal career in the UK, also embraced the opportunity to enjoy more family time. She advises, "My thought for anyone considering retirement is that children and grandchildren will benefit from having an available grandparent with spare time to help and advise. I have had the chance to visit universities with my granddaughter and have gotten to know her better as a result. Being able to help out our children on short notice is one of the greatest benefits of retirement. Of course, our added wisdom of age may possibly be considered some use to the family!"

Bonnie Sherr Klein, whose retirement from documentary filmmaking was hastened by a stroke, reflects, "It has taken many years for me to live gracefully with the lack of structure, validation, and camaraderie that came with 'work.'" She too revels in her availability to spend time with her grandchildren, in physical activities like kayaking, riding a high-tech tricycle, and swimming, and maintaining contact with Barnard friends. Some of you have used retirement to begin new ventures.

Judith Gold Stitzel, who reminded me about the Marx article, went back to school for an MFA in creative non-fiction. She used her skills to help her write a book about her husband's death, *Field Notes from Grief: The First Year*. She plans to move to Seattle to spend some time with her son, his partner, and her granddaughter. She will still maintain her home in Morgantown, W. Va., but "loves the idea of setting up my own place in a vibrant city, where, in a spanking-new, environmentally sensitive building, with gardens on the roof, and Mount Baker and Lake Washington visible from my

apartment, I can look forward to what comes next."

Naomi Barash Schmidt writes from Newtonville, Mass. where she welcomes the opportunity to study in Brandeis University's lifelong learning program (BOLLI), leading, co-leading, or studying diverse subjects like 20th-century music, ballet, and modern dance, social science, fiction, the New York experience, and utopias real and imagined. BOLLI not only provides intellectual stimulation, but a community of friends.

Susan Jacobs Feingold devotes her time to two volunteer jobs. She writes popular science articles on her Web site, thetasteofscience.wordpress.com, and sings with a New Jersey-based chorus, *Ars Musica*, thereby using both her Barnard majors, math and physics, and her minor, music.

Writing from Israel, **Joyce Rosman Brenner** is also considering retirement, and looks forward to reading what her classmates have to say. She has just returned from a cruise to Portugal, and enjoyed a mini-reunion with friends from the class of 1960.

Others also enjoy spending leisure time in Barnard-related activities.

Sharon Doyle Johe experienced an "all Barnard" day in October. "As a new Barnard alumnae affairs representative, I interviewed my first potential applicant in Statesville, N.C. at 1 p.m., then headed over to Durham for the Barnard Club of the Triangle's first annual dinner. I met **Nancy Tyson Park**, three very recent graduates, one amazing graduate of the class of 1941, and lots of interesting women in between. Dorothy Urman Denburg '70, vice president for college relations and former dean of the College, gave a presentation. Nothing gives you faith in the future than spending time with generations of bright, ambitious, generous, and optimistic women!"

Other members of our class enjoyed an Edith Wharton Walking Tour in Gramercy Park and the Flatiron District led by an award-winning tour guide. The walkers included **Dorothy Memolo Bheddah**, **Sydney Oren Brandwein**, **Elaine Schlozman Chapnick** (who arranged the thoroughly engaging afternoon), **Lorraine Silverstein Dauber**, **Sarita Newman Hart**, **Tobe Sokolow Joffe**, **Rena Blumenfeld Klotz**, **Valerie Brussel Levy**, **Judith Deutsch Raab**,

Ann Yu Rigby, **Annette Coira Tikofsky**, and your class correspondent. Ann lives in Connecticut and Valerie in Australia. Both had plans to be in New York, serendipitously read about the tour, and then added it to their itinerary. So, a lesson for us all: Do pay attention to correspondence from the alumnae affairs office. Ann and Valerie were delighted to be a part of the afternoon as were we locals to have them participate.

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62

It is with a heavy heart that I report the death of **Elinor Yudin Sachse** on August 14. Ellie announced her illness in the bio she wrote for the reunion book, but she was determined to finish planning—and then participate in—our fabulous 50th reunion. You who were there enjoyed our class's footprint—the room in Altshul with videos and exhibits of so many class members. It was Ellie's invention and implementation. Many classmates in the D.C. area were at the funeral, and the eulogy was given by **Ruth Nemzoff**, Ellie's freshman roommate and ever-since dearest friend. Here are some of Ruth's comments: "For 54 years she has been my confidant, my interior decorator, my editor, and my port in any storm. We have shared the disappointments and joys of love, the births of our children, the death of our mutual best friend, and the deaths of our own parents. Ellie always made herself available to celebrate or commiserate and to help find the road forward. Her outstanding talents led to her appointment as the first woman division chief at the World Bank. Ellie was a pioneer on the fast track until she hit the classic work-family dilemma: Ellie chose to serve her family, her community, and her friends, and to use her other considerable talents, which included painting and more recently photography, to build community. Ellie's family designated giving to Barnard as one way to memorialize her, and specifically mentioned the **Barbara Friedman Chambers** Scholarship Fund. Barbara (who died in 1982) was the third member of the Ellie-Ruth-Barbara friendship; her

husband and Harry Sachse are still law partners.

On a lighter note, **Roz Leventhal Siegel** sent some of her reunion impressions: "It's so hard to believe we have known each other for 50 years. What an incredible journey we have shared! Over half a century we have supported each other, advised each other, but most of all, listened to each other. I have watched the wheel of fortune turn and seen some of my most successful classmates struggle in their careers; the most romantic, glamorous marriages falter. As well, I have seen some of the late bloomers bloom, and remarriages prosper, as the wheel turns again. And I have been inspired by the optimism and resiliency of these same classmates, whose examples help me cope with the challenges in my own life. I was especially thrilled to hear about the ways we are still growing and exploring, e.g., starting an online magazine, becoming a veterinarian, publishing a book, recording original music, volunteering for the burial society of a temple, and winning awards. And I loved seeing the continuation of ties begun so long ago, e.g., the reading by her daughter of **Ellen Willis's** columns, reminiscing with **Sheila Levrant de Bretteville** about her days as the first tenured professor at Yale's school of art, and **Ruth Klein Stein's** talk about the old days in medical school. The evening cocktail parties at **Harriet Kaye Inselbuch's** house, and on the roof at Barnard were amazing—as was the guided tour of the Metropolitan Museum—but in the end, the best part was just seeing, embracing, and enjoying so many of my old friends and hearing the continuing stories of their lives."

The Long Island Barnard Club had a gathering at a garden this past summer, where **Rita Gabler Rover**, an award-winning chrysanthemum grower, gave a tour; several of our classmates attended, and says it was, "a very interesting and fun time." Also in the summer, when **Susie Levenson Pringle** did her "New York time," she and **Deborah Bersin Rubin** drove up to the Berkshires; one of the plays they saw was **Linda Schwartz Kline's** musical, *A Class Act*. (See more about it in the previous column.) Then in September, Susie and John cruised from New York to Montreal, and really enjoyed the trip. The latest news from Susie was about John's knee-replacement surgery.

She said he was recuperating slowly, she was trying to be a model nurse, and they were hoping to be able to attend the Fall Bridge Nationals in San Francisco at the end of November.

Knee-replacement surgery seems to be the surgery *du jour*: **Karen Charal Gross** had one knee operated on, and **Judy Terry Smith** had both knees done in the fall. **Roz Marshack Gordon**, remembering her own surgery, wished them well and cheered them on.

Note: there are still some 50th reunion books. They are \$25; if you'd like one, please go online to alum.barnard.edu/classbooks, or call Alumnae Affairs at 212.854.2005.

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50th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

63

Fifty years ago we were beginning our final semester at Barnard, still focused on papers and exams, but already planning for graduate school and careers, not to mention husbands. Our stories since then have varied: We have traveled or settled all over the globe, most of us have worked, many have raised families. At past reunions we've shared these stories, reconnected with old friends, and discovered new ones. The fun of Reunion has much in common with reading a good mystery. You learn what happened, to whom, where, and when. All the pleasures of discovery with none of the mayhem! Planning is well underway for a truly memorable 50th with much to learn and even more to enjoy.

Wendy Supovitz Reilly chairs the reunion committee. She and her husband divide their time between New York and Sea Island, Ga., and frequently travel to visit family and exotic locales. Wendy has worked as a psychotherapist, and in fine arts, and she has participated in alumnae activities since leaving Barnard. She joined a Connecticut Barnard Club, and founded another in Ohio. "Barnard women together are always interesting," she says. "I guess I just like organizing people!" She

wants, above all, to create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for everyone at Reunion, whether you have kept in touch over the years or not.

Shirley Sherak is in charge of networking, that is, contacting classmates to spur interest in Reunion. Shirley was an urban planner who became an architect while in her thirties and is now semi-retired. She misses the stimulating work from busier times, but not the inevitable scheduling pressures. She and her husband, George Harkins, an artist, enjoy their upstate house in the woods and, in the city, concerts, plays, and occasional travel. Some 15 years ago, in response to a phone call from **Carol Miles** (whom she hadn't known at Barnard) Shirley became involved in alumnae affairs. She notes the separation in our era of commuters and dorm students, which tended to limit social contacts for nonresidents. Now she relishes a second chance to interact with classmates and appreciates the opportunities for a new camaraderie. If you hear from Shirley in her networking role, heed her words—we can all benefit as she herself has!

After many years working in social and marketing research, Carol Miles has recently finished a two-year term as chair of the World Ship Society, Port of New York branch. Carol and husband Mario are avid travelers with a particular enthusiasm for travel by ship. At home in New York, they enjoy several concert subscriptions, as well as theatre, museums, and other cultural offerings. Carol is now busy coordinating communications between the various reunion planning committees and the rest of us—in itself a full-time job. Since graduation, she remained close to a small group who lived on the same corridor of their freshman dorm, but until our 20th reunion she didn't attend alumnae events. Since then, she has worn many related hats; she mentions a sense of duty to the College as well as the pleasures of ongoing community.

Space limitations prevent citing all the others who are hard at work. Come see us and enjoy the fruits of our labor at Reunion! —SRS

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64

Rita Stein Kobler included me in her e-mail list with "a brief history of my brief visit to Dublin," which she finds overall "to be a delightful city, not too big, and very walkable. There are many signs of the recession and the euro crisis there ... but it's still quite lively and vibrant. Lovely Georgian houses and the River Liffey in the middle of it." She notes that "it's the only city I know of that has a writers' museum," which she visited, as well as many other sites of interest, like the archaeological exhibits at the National Museum, modern art at the Hugh Lane Gallery, and a literary walking tour along with "Sweny's [sic] Chemist, where Bloom bought lemon soap. It's no longer a pharmacy, but a kind of shrine to Joyce, with regular readings from the works."

Class president **Jane Gross Perman** passed along **Pauline Piskin Sherman's** report on the recent Leadership Assembly, where she learned about Barnard's shared-use agreement with Columbia, through which Barnard pays Columbia an annual fee to share services, such as Internet, and facilities, such as the libraries, with Columbia, enabling Barnard to align with its competitors.

Many, many thanks to **Edie Cohen**, for sheltering my power-less daughter in her Upper West Side apartment during Hurricane Sandy.

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65

There's a mixed bag of news this issue, probably to be expected from folks our age.

We received this note from **Patricia**

Zimmerman Levine: "My husband and friend, Fred, passed away on September 18. He died in the kind hands of hospice, peacefully and painlessly. He dealt with multiple myeloma for six years. I don't use the words 'struggled' or 'battled' or 'fought' because this was an extremely potent enemy. He took pleasure in his two beautiful, kind, and successful daughters, Shira Levine Enstrom and Hallie Levine Sklar. He lived to welcome five grandchildren who brought him incredible joy—Anders, Geoffrey, Johanna, Tahlia, and Theodore.

Louise Perl wrote, "I'm still struggling with chronic Lyme disease. I'm exhausted; even drugged, I can't fall asleep until 2 or 3 a.m. or even later (or earlier?). I play duplicate bridge a few evenings a week, and do a few other things. I don't do any more volunteer work because I'm not at all reliable. I see my friends and take care of my two cats. I consider myself lucky because I'm able to live well despite it."

On a happier note, we've heard from **Miriam Muskat Greenwald**, who is living in Israel. She wrote that she and Yaak have just welcomed their first great-grandchild. "Yaak and I have been living in *moshav* Bet Gamliel for 35 years. Between 1964 and 1977 we had 10 addresses. The *moshav* is about 40 minutes from Tel Aviv and an hour from Jerusalem. We have four children and 17 grandchildren. We are retired and growing wine grapes. I volunteer with the elderly, visiting shut-ins and groups." She reflected that "It is 51 years since we came to Barnard-Columbia and at least 50 years since Seudat-Shabbat [the kosher Sabbath meal group] began. **Judi Greenberg Wilensky** told me that when her daughter went to Barnard the group still existed. I am amazed that kosher food is now available at Barnard." For Miriam, whose family paid for the mandatory dorm meals although she never ate them, the availability of kosher meals on campus "seemed like a dream at the time."

Enid Hinkes has informed us, "I am finally a grandmother. My youngest son, Llew, and his wife, Roberta, had a baby boy, Fychan Elias Jones. All are doing well. I am still doing appellate cases in the D.C. Court of Appeals, but hoping to retire soon and spend more time in our winter home in Mt. Pleasant, S.C. I am interested in contacting anyone from our class who is in the Charleston area. Also, I was

visited this summer by classmate **Priscilla MacDougall**, my former roommate at 616. We went to the Glimmerglass Opera, and also attended a lecture given by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg with whom Priscilla had formerly worked on women's issues. Renee Feldman Singer '64, a friend from high school, had come in earlier that weekend with her family, but we were only able to meet for breakfast because of conflicting schedules. I hope to see them again next summer. I hit my 70th in August, earlier than most of our classmates, and I am feeling very old, especially after the loss of my mother this past spring."

We send our congratulations on the good news conveyed here and our sympathy for the sad news, and, like everyone else, we're just pluggin' along, taking the good with the bad, and looking forward to our 50th reunion in just two years! —EK & MZ

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66

Karin Perloff Shields retired in June from her position as a reading specialist for Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, based at Scarsdale High School. But Karin says she's been so busy with a new grandson, Daniel, "that I haven't noticed that I'm retired!" Daniel was born August 4 to Jennifer Millman, 28, the "baby" of the family, says Karin, who lives in Scarsdale with her husband of 41 years, David, a retired computer research scientist. Their two granddaughters, the children of older daughter Alison, live in Georgia. (Their son, Michael, lives in North Carolina.) Jennifer, fortunately, lives nearby. "That's why I'm so involved with Daniel," says Karin, who sees her grandson daily, giving Jennifer time off for her own professional pursuits. Karin, meanwhile, has some private clients, and

volunteers as a remedial-reading teacher of Spanish-speaking children. In addition, she reads, walks daily ("I try for three miles"), and practices *chi gong*. Meditation helps her de-stress, says Karin. The goal, she says, is to "just try to hit the mark, and don't worry if you don't make it." Words to live by!

Three times a month, **Barbara Grado Devir** lands in Sing Sing Correctional Facility in Ossining, N.Y. It's not (as readers will have already guessed) because of any legal transgression on Barbara's part; she leads worship services in the prison's Protestant chapel and holds a Bible study group. Barbara is a Presbyterian lay minister, which allows her to "do all the things that 'real ministers' do," she writes. Barbara, who lives in Ossining, previously limited her activities at Sing Sing mostly to teaching, so holding services "is a big step for me," she says. "The congregation is a broad range of Protestants, many Evangelical/Pentecostal in outlook," says Barbara. "There are others who come simply to be closer to God." And "just in case I get too serious" Barbara continues to be a destination speaker aboard cruise ships, giving presentations about the history and culture of the ports of call. She also loves seeing her three granddaughters—6-year-old twins Eliza and Matilda, and Hazel, almost 4—in Brooklyn. "I always enjoy them," says Barbara, "and I always sleep well after I spend time with them!"

When Vancouver resident **Janet Izrael Strayer** took early retirement at 55 from a tenured post as a professor of psychology at Simon Fraser University to pursue a career as an artist, "it was a big leap of doubt," she reports from Canada. Her mother, she recalls, "thought I'd gone nuts." Fortunately, her husband didn't, and in any case, Janet's career as a figurative and mixed-media artist (her work is on view at janetstrayerart.com) seems to be moving along briskly: She has numerous exhibitions—both group and solo—to her credit, has won awards for her work, and has been featured in art publications, she notes. These days, says Janet, who holds the title of professor emerita, "I still do psychology on a consulting basis for specific projects, but more of me feels like an artist."

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45th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

hopefully for the better. You will be hearing from us.

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67

An addition to our class officer slate:

Susan Abramowitz has generously offered to continue as class fund chair.

Nancy Gertner recently spoke about her new book, *In Defense of Women: Memoirs of an Unrepentant Advocate*, to a gathering of Boston-area alumnae. (See p. 18.) **Barbara Mann** retired in 2011 from a career as a librarian, primarily working in academic settings. She has started to refocus on travel, most recently to Italy. Growing up in Brookline, Mass., she spent most of her adult life living on Boston's Beacon Hill, and several years ago moved to an apartment in Harbor Towers that offers a commanding view of the Boston Harbor, the Boston skyline, and the Seaport district.

Judith Devons was sorry that she was unable to make Reunion, but still feels her Barnard years to be so vivid, despite the passing of the decades. She has had periods of rewarding professional achievement—first in journalism and then as an artist exhibiting and leading workshops. Her art work is available to view on judithdevons.com. At the same time, she has gone through major transitions of getting divorced, having two of her three sons move to Israel, and packing up her home to sell, but not sure where she will be moving to. Family and friends are spread between London, New York, and Jerusalem. “Although almost 66, I am blessed with excellent health and want to make the next years count.”

Alumnae affairs still has some extra copies of the Class of 1967 reunion book. If you are interested, send a check for \$10 made out to Barnard College to the attention of **Susan Seigle**, Alumnae Affairs, Vagelos Alumnae Center, Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, New York 10027.

68

Not much to report this time, though I have kept in touch with several of our classmates. Our president, **Linda Rosen Garfunkel**, has been busy coming up with ideas for our upcoming 45th reunion. **Leslie Morioka**, **Rosalie Siegel**, and I have been chiming in our support and interest. One thing I can tell you is that there will be a concert performed by the Columbia Alumni Singers, of which my husband, Jeffrey Kurnit (CC '68), and I are members. We were involved in the formation of this group several years ago. It originally included former Columbia Glee Club members, but then was expanded to include any one who had sung with any campus performing organization. We put on two concerts, and have CDs of same, in 2010 and 2011, and the sound has been thrilling, not to mention the feelings of nostalgia. Come and join us as a participant or an audience member.

Penelope Parkhurst Boehm writes, “I just finished serving as district governor (volunteer position) for the New York City/Westchester district of Toastmasters International, an international organization for developing public speaking and leadership skills. I highly recommend it to all of you—clubs are everywhere, and it's a wonderful opportunity to keep your thoughts sharp and your writing skills honed. Clubs are small groups that meet usually weekly or twice a month, and designed to be supportive. The organization attracts interesting folk, and you can visit any club as a guest. Hope to see you at Reunion, and I can tell you more then!”

Have you any suggestions about Reunion? Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and I will gladly convey your thoughts to Linda or whoever else needs to know. The more the merrier. I hope you are all planning to come. We probably have much to talk about; no doubt our lives have changed drastically in the past five years—

69

From far and wide—and even close to campus—our classmates have been busy on many fronts. **Martha Gaber Abrahamsen** writes from Copenhagen that she's winding up work on her “very large monograph on Gottlieb Bindesbøll, the architect behind the magnificent Thorvaldsen Museum,” which is slated for a February 2013 publication. Of course, Martha is already planning the upcoming year, choosing from a list of books to translate. She's also looking forward to opera performances in Denmark and Finland, as well as her annual opera trip with a British group, “this time to St. Petersburg, Russia, for two Russian operas and yet another Verdi: *La Forza del Destino*,” she says. “With winter coming on, the normal rowing season is over. We had a miserable summer—cold, rainy, windy—so I haven't reached my customary target of 1000 km, though 914 km isn't bad, either, since it puts me in the top 30 in Denmark's biggest rowing club. It's a great way to keep in shape and be sociable.”

Stella Ling is beyond busy. She returned to Columbus, Ohio, to a new position in academic radiation oncology in time for her son's wedding to his Harvard classmate last fall, after a two-year stay in Siena, Italy. There, she writes, she “had a wonderful time eating the incredible Tuscan cuisine, basking in the natural mineral hot springs, studying painting, theatre, and Italian, *la bella lingua*, and kissing the horses for the Palio races.”

Bea Birman, still in the Washington, D.C. area, returned to her half-time work on evaluations of federal education programs last fall to devote herself to political campaigning—something she does every four years. This time, the self-described “politics addict” writes that she spent four weeks volunteering for the Obama campaign in Nevada.

Meredith Sue Willis isn't merely teaching and writing. With a new edition of her how-to-write book for young people, *Blazing Pencils*, just out, she writes that she's "still getting reviews for my most recent literary fiction, *Out of the Mountains*, from Ohio University Press, and *Re-Visions*, from Hamilton Stone. She loves the variety of her literary activities. "I'm continuing to teach writing at NYU's School of Continuing and Professional Studies," Meredith says. "But I also do writing workshops online and make school visits, and just recently gave a workshop for elders at the Newark Museum using the exhibit 'Angels and Tomboys' as a jumping-off point for personal writing."

Another retiree who sounds busier than ever is **Mary Carchrie-Feltus**, who was director of the Senior Service Corps for Elder Services of Cape Cod and the islands. Since then, Mary writes, she has "been living in South Windsor, Conn., to be close to our two grandchildren, Rory and Mairi. In between taking care of the kids, I have been teaching Irish history at Manchester Community College, as well as workshops in volunteer management." Other adventures include three trips abroad with husband Roger. She writes: "Iceland, Turkey, and just recently, Egypt. We left Cairo the morning the riots started at the American Embassy. For the week before that we had armed guards on our trip, which extended from the Pyramids to the dam at Aswan. It was quite an adventure in 120-degree heat! Our next trip is going to be up north for sure."

Linda Yellen, whose first film was the 10-minute short she made sophomore year, is working on a new movie, the first to be directed by Barbra Streisand since 1996. The Website Showbiz411 reports that *Skinny and Cat* is an "epic love story about writer Erskine Caldwell and photojournalist Margaret Bourke-White. Colin Firth and Cate Blanchett are officially attached," and Linda is producing from a script she wrote. She hopes it will be out before our next reunion.

And **Linda Krakower Greene**, as usual busy with her Cruise Planners/American Express travel agency, writes that she met with our classmates and alumnae from the Class of 1939 on up. It was "quite a fantastic group and always so wonderful to be with Barnard women!" Linda says. "Our own class was represented by **Karen Vexler Hartman**,

Daphne Fodor Philipson (class fund chair), **Kathy Vogel McNally** (who was there working with the Barnard Club group), and me. We spent two days at Leadership Assembly, brainstorming ways to involve classmates in Barnard activities and our upcoming reunion (2014 will be our 45th!) and learning about the exciting changes happening at the College."

During a mini-reunion at Daphne's East 79th Street home, Linda and a group that included **Judy Barack, Judy Gould Cavalier, Carolyn Chaliff, Flora Sellers Davidson, Laura Adler Givner, Susan Gould, Karen Hartman, Langdon Learned Holloway, Anna Latella Lascar, Doralynn Schlossman Pines, Cecelia Ward Riddett, Joanna Gough Roy, Carol Krongold Silberstein, Susan Spelman, LaVergne Trawick, and Ellen Yamasaki Williams**, launched planning for the 2014. She invites us all to be in touch and to join in. "We hope to involve as many classmates as possible and want to reach out to everyone," Linda writes.

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70

As this column goes to press, Hurricane Sandy has passed, but this storm brought trauma and loss to many. Our hearts are with all who experienced the effects of the storm. Please reach out to your classmates.

Before the storm, **Katie Gates** wrote to announce that her second novel, *Martin Lost and Found*, has been published and is available on amazon.com.

Gail Wolff Smith and her husband, Donald, "put aside" their "increasing fear of flying to head out to San Francisco to visit with old friends from Boston," and were "enjoying the art, food, and music that SF has to offer, including watching (Gail's beloved) St. Louis Cardinals win the first game of the playoffs against the Giants." As a birthday present to herself, Gail purchased a new alto saxophone for her "ongoing career as a rank amateur

musician in a local band for older adults who are taking up a new musical instrument for the first time."

Amy De Rosa '74 shared the sad news of the death of **Deirdre Taylor Nicholson** on July 25. Deirdre worked for Legal Aid for many years, resided in South Burlington, Vt., and is survived by her husband and son.

Sally Reno is still a producer/newscaster with Pacifica Radio and a fiction writer. In October, her story, "Hotel Khadijah," from Full of Crow Press, was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Her personal highlights this year include the marriage of her son, John Spencer (Jake) Coley, to Ashley Woodward on October 6.

Many thanks to **Eileen McCorry** and **Marilyn Stocker** for representing the class of 1970 at the Barnard Leadership Assembly. Marilyn wrote that "it was a very robust and positive experience, with our classmate **Dorothy Urman Denberg** having a major role." They "learned a great deal about how dynamic and creative Barnard's liberal-arts curriculum is, and that there are a number of new multidisciplinary majors that we all would have loved to experience." Marilyn also "was shocked to learn" that Barnard's endowment was far less than those of the other Seven Sister colleges, although Barnard remains one of the "most generous schools to provide scholarships for qualified women according to need," a policy which enabled Marilyn herself to come on full scholarship for which she is "eternally grateful."

Marilyn Stocker has recently accepted a position as senior leadership consultant for the Gallup Corporation, which, in addition to producing the well-known Gallup Poll, uses the data-driven capacities of research science to enhance employee engagement, maximize talent in organizations, and promote well being in the workplace. Marilyn's career has included roles as a leadership and change-management consultant along with a parallel career track as dean, vice president, provost, and faculty at several universities, including Northwestern, where she earned her doctorate and master's degrees, and where she taught for more than 16 years. As vice president of our class, Marilyn is "tasked with leading us in the next big reunion" which is in 2015. She welcomes suggestions to make the event "really smashing, meaningful,

and memorable." Contact Marilyn at glindawand@aol.com. Other ideas she shared from the Leadership Assembly included holding mini-reunions, perhaps in different regions of the country.

Your news is always our news, so keep in touch and let us know what is happening in your life. —CTW

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71

Happy New Year, Class of '71. As I was writing this column, many classmates were still without power following Hurricane Sandy. Hopefully, order has been restored to all our lives, and everyone was able to enjoy the blessings of family and friends over the holidays.

Congratulations to **Mary Lane** on her new position. "I'm now in charge of the bankruptcy and workout department at Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp, LLP, a full-service firm with offices in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C." Previously, Mary was of counsel at Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, and a partner at Loeb & Loeb LLP. She earned her JD from UCLA School of Law.

Michelle Patrick's *Missing Daughter*, a pair of interlinking monologues by two free people of color in the year 1777, was one of a dozen pieces presented in October as part of the American Slavery Project writers' collective, in remembrance of New York City's African Burial Ground (1650-1790). **Ina May Wool** and **Barbara Shear** attended the New-York Historical Society performance.

Catherine Bilzor Cretu and husband Octavian became first-time grandparents on October 12 with the arrival of Lucas James Cretu. "We are mesmerized, and just can't put this child down," she says. "We finally stopped fighting over who gets to change his diaper—we do it together!" Catherine was honored to represent progressive small-business owners on behalf of the Main Street Alliance in a political ad prepared for post-election

lobbying efforts, which can be viewed at youtube.com/watch?v=cws4h8kUT8I.

Legal foundations for the '71 Oral History Project are now in place. BC Voices, Inc. has been registered in New York State, and has filed for permission to operate as a nonprofit corporation, so that future donations to the project will be tax deductible. May 2013 bring us peace and prosperity.

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72

Ginny Bales, our class president, sent us her thoughts on Reunion 2012: "It was wonderful seeing everyone. (But I'm still trying to grasp the fact that we graduated 40 years ago!) Right after Reunion, my father had a double bypass (he's recovering). I went back to Tennessee to help my parents, and these past two months have been a set of new adventures in family communication, and problem-solving from a distance. Being able to talk or e-mail with my Barnard friends has meant a great deal. Once again, Barnard conversations are helping me make sense of my life. Looking forward to many more conversations with all of you over the coming years."

Danita (Kita) McVay writes that all is well in Minneapolis, where she is busy working in banking and chairing the board of Hamline University. Kita was sorry to miss Reunion 2012, but explained that she had a heavy travel schedule, and was also busy preparing for her daughter's summer wedding. We send our collective congratulations to the whole family!

Speaking of weddings, **Shoko Moriwaki Iwata** was also busy helping to plan her eldest daughter's summer wedding. In the fall, Shoko participated in an exhibit of *ikebana* flower arrangements at the Japanese Reading Room of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Shoko and two of her students arranged a *Renka*, meaning their work shared a common theme. In this case, they each used containers made of black iron for their

arrangements. It was beautiful, indeed.

Susan Clare went on the Barnard alumnae trip to India as part of the College's Global Symposium series. She writes, "I had barely noticed the e-mail announcement for the trip but it caught the attention of other Boston-area alumnae; the e-mail chatter took hold, and I jumped at the opportunity. A local alumna, Sibel Bessim '82, became my travelling buddy. The group consisted of about 15 alumnae, four husbands, several friends of alumnae, two of the best-behaved children on earth, and amongst us, five doctors. We spanned from class of '56 to class of '08. Our starting point was Mumbai where we attended the symposium and met many local parents and high-school students. The panel of speakers provided an overview of local women's issues. We spent the next five days touring by bus in Jaipur, Agra, and Old and New Delhi. We barely scratched the surface of this vast country, yet I came home having fully immersed myself in another culture. When not travelling I am engaged as a board member with a number of nonprofit organizations including Fair Trade USA and The ICA Group, a nonprofit business-consulting firm that helps create jobs in low-income communities."

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40th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

73

Maida Chicon retired in 2007 from Time Warner Cable, where she was senior director of multicultural marketing. "These five years have flown by fast with activities that give me great satisfaction—volunteering, gardening, exploring the Big Apple, traveling, participating in Barnard's Project Continuum, and being there for my family and friends any time, any day. Looking forward to celebrating our 40th reunion and seeing so many of us there," writes Maida. She's originally from the Upper West Side; for the last 15 years she's lived in Midtown on Beekman Place.

Jessica Raimi's essay "Ballet School," a memoir of her ballet teacher, appeared in

the Fall 2012 issue of *The Antioch Review*.

From **Deborah Reich**: "I'm enjoying my sixties; when I was young, I never imagined I'd live this long. In Israel/Palestine, my home since 1981, everything seems hyper-concentrated, like the newer laundry detergents. On good days, the texture of life here is exhilarating. Coffee is not just coffee, but thick black coffee with cardamom—or there's latte, if you'd rather. The expat life, even for a dual citizen, must always be a curious adventure. Neither of my kids is monocultural. My son was accepted to a master's program in math at the University of Nice in France. My daughter, after two years of college in California, is finishing two years as a conscript soldier in the Israeli military and looking forward to rejoining civilian life. I never wanted to be any soldier's parent, but it wasn't about me. Then I thought about doing a book about that (soldier daughter, dissident mom) but decided she's had a challenging enough time being my kid and doesn't deserve to have to star in a project like that. Meantime, the book I published last year, *No More Enemies*, which has been partially serialized in *Jewish Currents* magazine online, has not yet perceptibly shifted human civilization toward a better place, but I'm not giving up. It's only been out a year, right? 'Patience,' I tell myself. When Vice President Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 comes to Israel with lecturers from the college, which has happened a couple of times lately, it's a hoot for all the alums who attend—not quite like a visit to 116th Street, but better than nothing. Our class has managed to live into the age of cyberspace and space travel; having come this far, I'd like to make it to 'Beam me up, Scotty.' Barnard would seem a lot closer then."

Three months after graduating from Barnard, **Lydia Wowk Wasylenko** married Michael Joseph Wasylenko of Philadelphia, and they now find it hard to believe that they have been married for 39 years. Since 1984, they have worked at Syracuse University, where Michael is a professor of economics and a senior associate dean in the Maxwell School of Public Affairs. Lydia, who earned an MLS and an MBA after Barnard, has held diverse jobs in the Syracuse University Library and is now a subject specialist (classics, economics, history, and Germanic and Slavic languages and literatures) in the research, collections,

and scholarly communication unit. Son Thomas Michael Wasylenko graduated from Princeton summa cum laude in 2008, is completing his PhD in chemical engineering at MIT, and is thinking about postdoc opportunities. Lydia is truly happy to have stayed in touch with classmates **Mitzi Cohen Donefer, Francisca Gonzalez Arias, Lucille Mastriaco, Stephanie Rifkinson-Mann, and Martieneke (Martine) Spruytenburg Faber.** —JR

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75

Julia Surtshin is enjoying work as an independent college counselor, supporting high school students and their parents as they navigate the important transition to college. "After my husband and I moved to Portland, Ore., 20 years ago, I learned to downhill ski. I'm proud to say that I finished the last season by skiing down off the Palmer Glacier on Mount Hood. I'd love to hear from long-lost Barnard friends."

JoAnn Engelhardt says she "had the privilege to attend Barnard Leadership Assembly October 25-26 as fund chair for our class. It was an inspiring two days. Highlights included hearing from our new provost and dean, Linda Bell, whose energy and erudition were extraordinary, even for someone associated with the College. I was especially happy to connect again with our class president, **Lois Shapiro**, and to meet officers of other classes. I'm eager to begin fund-raising efforts for our wonderful college as we prepare for our 40th reunion (We all graduated at age 10, right??) in 2015. On a personal note, I was recently appointed to the planned-gifts committee of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy."

Lois Shapiro also attended Leadership Assembly and reports she loved meeting

women from other classes, and wonders if other members of the Class of 1975 might be interested in a mini-reunion or other type of activity.

Sonia Taitz writes that her new book, a memoir called *The Watchmaker's Daughter*, tells the story of her upbringing as the child of Yiddish-speaking, Orthodox survivors of the Holocaust, as well as the Odyssean journey she undertook (via academics, romance, and travel) in reaction to her background. The book was described by *People* magazine as "funny and heart-wrenching."

Barbara Kapnick writes that she is a judge of the Supreme Court of the State of New York in New York County (Manhattan) in the commercial division. On October 25, she was presented with the Chief Justice Harlan Fiske Stone Memorial Award by the New York City Trial Lawyers Association at the Tribeca Rooftop with 400-500 lawyers and judges in attendance.

Rosalind Volpe Goodwin is the director of the Silver Nanotechnology Working Group (SNWG), and for the last four years, her member companies have been working with the EPA and other global regulators to develop a clear, responsible, and reasonable regulatory path for nanoscale silver additives. She also serves as a consultant for the International Lead Zinc Research Organization (ILZRO) on metal toxicology and environmental health matters. Her son, Adrian, is at Cornell doing a master's in applied physics, and husband, Frank, travels the world solving metallurgical problems and managing research and development projects with zinc. Her free time is spent studying the cello, and playing with a cello quartet and the Chapel Hill (N.C.) Philharmonia.

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76

This will be a short update this issue. I am writing this column in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy and am thankful that electricity and heat have been restored to

my hometown.

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Leadership Assembly and workshops held on the Barnard campus with class leaders **Susan Kaufman, Susan Sommer Klapkin,** and **Pat Tinto.** I enjoyed watching Mary Ann LoFrumento '77 conduct an "Oprah-style" talk, welcoming our new Barnard provost. Also present was my good friend and coworker, Lois Smith Goldsmith '75, at the Leadership Assembly dinner. We reminisced about being in college during the turbulent 1970s, and shared the details of our attorney careers and family news. As a group we discussed why alumnae become motivated to return and continue involvement with Barnard. For many of us, Barnard will always be remembered for its uniqueness as a feminist academic network and an intellectual center where young women can explore their greatest passions. My group, from the '70s, came up with ideas to make class reunions more class specific and relevant to attendees. Between reunions, we can maintain a strong connection with Barnard year round in our regional clubs, through social media, and through Barnard's career services office.

As always, I am requesting information about our classmates. Please drop me a line, and share with us your family milestones, travel news, and life stories.

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77

I enjoyed catching up with many classmates at Reunion 2012 and in recent weeks via e-mail or Facebook.

Brenda Aiken was promoted to director of medical services at Columbia Health, the student-health service of the Morningside Heights campus of Columbia University. She has been working as a physician at the health service for the past 12 years. She reports, "The 2012 Reunion was particularly memorable as **Janice Pride-Boone**, my best friend since kindergarten, took me down memory lane

with her keynote address at the Alumnae of Color dinner." Brenda was also excited to see **Ruth Marquis** at Reunion.

Jacqueline Koch Ellenson reports that she loved "coming home" to New York about 10 years ago after 25 years in Los Angeles. Jackie works part time as the director of the Women's Rabbinic Network, the support and advocacy organization for women who are Reform rabbis and rabbinic students. Jackie is participating in several programs that celebrate the 40th anniversary of women's rabbinic ordination, which she describes as "a remarkable milestone," noting that women rabbis "have achieved so much and have literally changed the face of Jewish living and the Jewish community." Jackie remains "challenged by and committed to women's advancement and parity in this field." Jackie's youngest child graduated from high school in June 2012. She has four other children, ranging in age from 24 to 29. Her husband's work as president of the rabbinic seminary where they both were ordained is "very demanding but rewarding."

Emily Gould tells us, "It was so heartwarming to attend our 35th reunion and have the opportunity to share the stories of our adult lives with one another. As is true for many of us, I've had several twists and turns in my path. After 17 years of law practice as a criminal prosecutor and another chunk of years at home during which time I helped to start an alternative school in Vermont, I opened my own dispute-resolution firm, Empatia Resolutions (empatieresolutions.com), offering mediation, coaching, and training. I also train volunteer mediators in Rwanda. My marriage to Tom Kavet, whom I met the first day of orientation, ended a few years ago, but we remain close as parents of Alexa, 26, and Aaron, 18. Barnard has been a true friend to our family by hosting wonderful events to celebrate the lives of my stepmother, Jane Gould, former director of the Barnard Women's Center and my father, Jay Gould. I hope we can stay connected as classmates, and I look forward to the next reunion!"

If you'll excuse me for tooting my own horn, I'm excited to report that my poem "Star Dust" was a finalist in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* Poetry Contest 2012. Recently, my writing appeared in *Apiary*, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Finding my Faith*, and online on Wild River Review.

Please keep me posted about your news. Also, if you are on Facebook, please join our Barnard Class of 1977 Facebook page.

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35th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

78

With such a great response to the recent plea for class news, we might have to use emoticons to fit it all in:

Cyndi Stivers is now editor-in-chief of the prestigious *Columbia Journalism Review*.

I ran into **Cathy Altman Nocquet** in Paris, where she teaches children to "write outside the lines." Her book of the same name "is the top-rated language arts eBook for kids on amazon.com," with a paperback version coming.

Barbara Cameron moved to Los Angeles years ago to be a writer, "got sidetracked by acting," and last year won first prize in a creative nonfiction contest for "Hawk Blood," which is about taking Mary Gaitskill's workshop at the New York State Writers Conference at Skidmore, "and then returning to Beverly Hills to wait on tables." Her essay is in the Spring 2012 *American Literary Review*.

Emily Gaylord Martinez has been promoted to court attorney referee at Family Court in downtown Brooklyn. "Referees are adjudicators—like a judge in almost all aspects, except for a few limitations," such as not being able to incarcerate anyone for contempt. Drat! She presides over hearings, issues orders, and writes decisions.

Denise Yarbrough was named director of religious and spiritual life at the University of Rochester, where she uses her experience in interfaith dialogue to "support the university's many faith communities housed at the interfaith chapel," and creates programming. In addition to her Barnard degree, Denise received a juris doctor from University of Michigan Law School, and master's and doctoral degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary.

My pal **Martha Mitchell** continues her illustrious TV-directing career with two recent *Bluebloods*, an *Unforgettable*, and the now canceled *NYC22*. Check out her new website at marthamitchell.com. She recently spent time with Emily Heilbrun '77, Martha Nelson '76, and the twins **Carol Fink Pratt**, a clothing designer, and **Abbie Fink Galvin**, a yoga instructor, both with children in college.

From New Jersey, contract attorney **Catherine Roseman Smith** claims she has nothing much to report—but she does so with such laconic, self-deprecating wit that she really ought to write a book.

Alessandra Gelmi's writing is featured in *Amazing Graces: An Anthology of Washington Women Fiction Writers* (Paycock Press), and in the literary review *Gargoyle* 57.

My former 3 Hewitt floormate **Miriam Westheimer** lives in the Bronx but travels the world on behalf of a family literacy program. "I never underestimate the power of loving what I do while also making a living doing it."

Another of my 3 Hewitt floormates has different news, almost unspeakably sad. **Mindy Steinberg Agler**'s sweet, beautiful daughter, Talia Faith, was killed by a van while she was jogging in D.C. In the wake of this tragedy, Mindy and Rich have moved to the Florida Keys, where "the slower pace and the incredible beauty are vital to both of us right now," writes Mindy. "I spend several hours a week gardening, and some time almost every day writing ... We are all just reeling. I'm trying to focus a lot of energy into supporting the shelter for trafficked and abused girls that was named after Tali in Nairobi, the Talia Agler Girls' Shelter (TAGS) in Kenya."

Veronica Blake-Greenaway finally found a boss she liked when she started her own national consulting business nine years ago, after 25 years doing employment law on the defense side. "I specialize in conducting internal investigations, mediations, arbitrations and training, and serving as an expert witness." President Obama appointed her husband of 31 years, Joe (CC '78), to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. They received shelter from Hurricane Sandy with **Grace DeSimone Reuter** and her husband, Tom (SEAS '78).

Textile artist **Polly Barton** and her

architect husband discovered 20 years ago that the Upper West Side wasn't big enough for three kids AND Polly's Japanese loom. "Living in New Mexico with its vibrant history of textiles, cultures, and now a solid contemporary art scene has been a wonderful resource for me. Quiet retreats into the landscape and truly interesting (and rugged) individuals have made my life here very rich in texture, beauty, and conversation."

While **Sheila Perry Bassoppo-Moyo** writes a memoir and contemplates reviving her tea business, she teaches at a community college in Raleigh and instructs in chair yoga at a women's shelter. She just published an article on Pan-Africanist W.E.B. Du Bois and the power of music to inspire and inform people fighting for liberation in Africa.

Laurel Myerson Isicoff "is the first and still the only female U.S. bankruptcy judge in the southern district of Florida." Her daughter, with a master's degree in occupational therapy from Columbia, was preparing for a wedding, and her son "works in the scrap-metal business with his dad." Laurel sends news of **Ellen Shankman Wides**, whose youngest daughter has begun a rotation in the Israeli army.

Filmmaker **Anne Aghion**, who has documented geologists in Antarctica and survivors of genocide in Rwanda, discussed "the unanswerable questions" and the "emotional alchemy" of her work in a TED talk in Paris, and gave the keynote at Stanford's Conference on Conscience.

Hurricane Sandy took a toll on **Myrna Keller Nussbaum**, including electricity, heat, phone, two cars, "property, memories, appliances out the wazoo." Yet she still did her reunion planning work, earning her the title of Most Dedicated Classmate. **Lori Gold** attended the 15th International Anti-Corruption Conference in Brasilia on behalf of 100Reporters, an organization cofounded by former *New York Times* correspondent **Diana Schemo** to use "the power of the pen to hold government and business accountable."

Barbara Morgan doesn't think it's glamorous that she sings and does volunteer work in Riverside Park, but if she ever heard me sing, she'd change her tune.

Jean Szetoo writes from "all the way out in California" that this is the first time she will attend Reunion. I'm looking forward to seeing Jean and everyone, both

glamorous and un-, at our 35th this May.

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79

Since the last issue, we in the greater metropolitan area have experienced two major events—President Obama speaking at the 2012 graduation and Hurricane Sandy.

Laurie Weisman commented, "I have to say that the president was great, but I thought the valedictorian outshone him with her talk about her chemistry professor and the extraordinary connections he made with literature."

Melissa Knox-Raab writes in that she is still "living and teaching in Germany, and she's writing a blog, thecriticalmom.com. The children are 8, 10, and 13 now and life is crammed with afternoon activities. Meanwhile, I still take ballet classes and tap, and am in a little performing group—we mostly do nursing homes and churches. It is a lot of fun."

Sissy Cargill Biggers relates that "the most unusual milestone for me in this maturation process was packing my younger daughter Lucy, who graduated from Tulane in 2012, off to her first television-anchor job at WABG in Greenville, Miss. As my own career in television ebbs and flows, it is very exciting to watch the path she has set! Sarah is finishing her masters in the historic preservation of buildings at the Art Institute of Chicago—a thread she follows from her father, Kelsey (GSB '78), who restored a 100-year-old hardware store into a fine-arts space, Southport Galleries, in my hometown of Southport, Conn."

Karen Stugensky fills us in on her life as she "recently got a new position in renal transplant at New York-Presbyterian (Columbia campus) and I love it. Seems like most of my life has been connected to Columbia University in some way, either through school or work. And my father used to work at Nevis Laboratory. I have been a physician's assistant since

1985, and it is an extremely rewarding profession. I am still living in Riverdale with my husband, Michael, and our three rescued ex-racing greyhounds."

Adele Miller provides us a quick update: "I've been working as a grants manager in the sponsored-programs department of an academic medical center for the past six years, helping clinical investigators with their research proposals, and setting up the administration for their grant awards and clinical trials. It's a great way to combine my graduate training in public health/epidemiology, and experience in health care utilization, data management, and analysis skills. After raising three daughters, we finally have an empty nest, and are enjoying the extra time and freedom. My second husband and I celebrated our 20th anniversary this past May, and are about to take a belated celebratory trip to Spain and Italy, now that we don't have to worry about leaving a teenager at home."

Margo Amgott (with whom I came "that close" to being roomies in 616) is making some life changes. "I just took a new job as interim associate provost at Hunter College, where I happily went to elementary school oh so many years ago. Don't know the long-term career plan, probably I don't have one, but this seemed like a great next step after serving as executive director of the NYU Child Study Center. I live in the Hunter neighborhood with my husband and our daughter, Molly, 10 (a pistol, hopefully headed for Barnard someday), currently in fifth grade at the Dalton School."

Finally, I ran into **Terry Newman** at the Leadership Assembly who was happy to provide some quick updates on our classmates. **Andrea Alderman Swenson** has been elected to the Board of Education in Piedmont, Calif. **Melanie Waynik Larrison** is now the Head of School for Ezra Academy of Woodbridge, Conn., and there is a GREAT picture of her on the website. Melanie, you look fabulous! Finally, **Heidi Crane Rieger** and her husband, Richard, are the executive producers of a movie, *Follow Me: The Yoni Netanyahu Story*, about the raid on Entebbe in 1976.

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80

Faye Steiner Fishman and her husband threw a graduation party in honor of daughter Brittany Fishman '09, who graduated from Fordham Law School in May. Brittany is currently a fellow at the Fordham Law Center. Faye is a retired optometrist who has done medical editing and photo research. She took up the harp nine years ago and currently does local shows, provides background music, and is in a harp ensemble. Her husband of 30 years is a patent attorney. Faye doesn't mention this, but a little (Facebook) bird told me that yoga is also an important part of her life. Faye lives in New Jersey; you can reach her on Facebook. You can reach me there too—hint, hint.

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81

It was great to be back at Barnard for the annual Leadership Assembly in October. Barnard Hall resonated with the voices of generations of thoughtful and inspired women. While I would like to fill this whole column with news about the conference, it's feast or famine with our class. Nobody sent news for the last issue and this issue is chock-full! So let me say this: Check out the alumnae network! (<http://alum.barnard.edu>)

Note that my new e-mail address is at barnard.edu. It will forward mail to my primary account and remain a stable address where anyone can reach me, even if my primary address changes. You too can get your own Barnard address. The

network also gives access to newspapers and periodicals, information about online classes, on-site gym passes, places to find and post jobs. It's pretty great.

Our class president, **Wendy White** can also attest to the energy on campus and all that our alma mater continues to offer. It was wonderful to connect with Wendy, an artist, playwright, and teacher. While I didn't know the majority of women at the Leadership Assembly, I left with many contacts and reasons to be in touch.

So, if you are one of the many who sent news in for this column, thank you! Or if you want to tell us about your life in the future, I hope you sign in to the network and accept the invitation to continue your association with Barnard. Meanwhile, enjoy these Class Notes.

I am writing to you from Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. where I live with folklorist Tom van Buren (CC '82). Our son, Ben, is a PhD candidate in cognitive psychology at Yale. Our daughter is a sophomore at Oberlin College, where her first vote in a presidential election counted. She studies environmental science and is very involved with music. I do library work, teach poetry workshops, and write. I am also experimenting with a year-round garden where my leafy greens are still thriving.

Miles away from us, and even further than Ohio, **Jana Schulman** is a professor of old English, old Norse-Icelandic, the medieval epic tradition, and women in medieval literature at Western Michigan University. She coedited *Beowulf at Kalamazoo: Essays on Translation and Performance* (WMU Medieval, 2012) and enjoys living in Kalamazoo, "which as numerous shirts and mugs attest, really does exist." She lives with Dan Williams and their two cats.

Marcy Goldstein writes that she is in her 18th year of private practice in dermatology. Her son, Judah Bellin, who graduated from Cornell in 2012, married Rivkah Blustein '12. "We are blessed to have another Barnard daughter join our family," she says, noting that her own daughter, Elisheva Bellin, graduated in 2012. Included in the wedding celebration were several Barnard alumnae; **Abby Bernheim Landzberg**, Ruth Klein '82, Debra Pine '83 and Etti Hochberg Schaap '75.

Deborah Ungerleider sends good wishes from Midland Park, N.J., and news that her partner in a pediatric practice

that they've had for 23 years has retired, just as her husband is starting his own LLC. The couple has a daughter who is a sophomore at the University of Hartford and a son in 10th grade.

Pia De Girolamo is also trained in medicine and keeps up her credentials in infectious diseases even as she is a professional artist. Her work has shown at the David Rocco Gallery in Philadelphia, where Barnard alumna **Mercedes Jacobson**, MD, stopped by after reading about an opening on the Barnard Club of Philadelphia's Facebook page. Pia and her husband, Paul Mather, MD, have two sons. The eldest is a freshman at Colgate, the youngest, a junior in high school.

We can also celebrate the writers in our midst by inviting **Hester Kaplan** to visit our book clubs to discuss her forthcoming novel, *The Tell* (HarperCollins, January 2013).

Debbie Mullin writes "I now commiserate about papers and deadlines with my daughters, Sophie, 23, and a grad student at NYU, and Amelia, 20, a junior at Barnard." Debbie is a second-year doctoral student in social-welfare policy at Fordham and loves visiting her daughter at Barnard and seeing that, "at its essence, the college is unaltered." She lives in Pound Ridge, N.Y., sharing a home with her husband, three dogs, two cats, and 15 chickens.

It's inspiring to see that we have another doctoral candidate among us.

Amanda Eastman Buschi is hoping to finish her dissertation on human and organizational systems in early 2014. She is also enjoying work as an executive coach and change-management consultant. Amanda lives with her husband, Neil, and daughter, Sarah. She keeps in touch with classmates **Martha Kahan**, **Stefanie Brand**, and **Lynne Rambo**, friends since freshman year.

Lucky **Elizabeth Olson** can still visit our old haunts. She is a faculty member at Columbia medical school and also teaches biomedical engineering on the main campus. "Whenever I look across Broadway at Barnard, I feel like a student again," she writes. Elizabeth has three sons, and still keeps in touch with **Donna Tsufura**, **Priscilla Schuster Keswani**, **Mary Henniger-Voss**, and **Lisa Rodke**.

Last but not least, **Laura Whitman** is a psychiatrist on the Upper West Side. She and her husband, Barry, have two

sons, Sam, who attends the High School for Math, Science and Engineering at City College, "the most diverse high school in New York City," and Theo, who attends Summit in Queens.

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30th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

83

I am pleased to report, as a member of the Class of 1983 30th reunion committee, that we are moving full-speed ahead to plan an interesting and memorable 30th reunion. Our classmates will be traveling from near and far to attend, including your class correspondent! Speaking of traveling, I just returned from a relaxing and fun vacation in El Salvador—it's Central America's best-kept secret—highly recommended!

Miho Nishimura Aoki has been living and working in Japan since 1995. After getting an MBA from Harvard in 1987, she worked in Manhattan for Salomon Brothers and Pfizer, got married and lived in Brooklyn Heights. In 1995, her Japanese husband was summoned home by his bank, so they moved back to Tokyo. After returning to Japan, Miho joined Estée Lauder and was responsible for launching MAC Cosmetics in Japan. In 2001, Miho left Estée Lauder to become a partner in Deloitte Consulting's consumer business/life sciences practice. She had her first daughter, Erika, at the age of 40. In 2005, Miho became the Japanese head of a Hong Kong-based apparel manufacturing company, and two years later she joined Amway as chief marketing officer. In 2007, Miho had her second daughter, Misato, at the tender age of 48. She left Amway in 2010, and has been taking time off since then. Miho recently made a trip to Manhattan in October en route to attending her 25th reunion at Harvard Business School.

Mary Chang Hsin's news was contributed by **Yin-Yin Shang** who reported that Mary married her Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Science sweetheart right after college and



"The more I experience through my personal and professional pursuits, the more I appreciate what I've learned at Barnard and what Barnard offers current students and women globally. **Even with three children in college, it's important for me to give now and include Barnard in my will to help ensure that the College can continue important conversations about women and education.**"

Ann Turobiner Dachs '81

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had two daughters. Her oldest daughter was married in August on a beautiful beachside and Yin-Yin congratulates her and her family on this important event.

Carol Degener Lynch was married at the end of July to Michael D. Lynch in Sharon, Conn., and they reside in Manhattan and Sharon. Her matron of honor was Mary Reiner Barnes '84; one of the bridesmaids was Sharon Vaino '75. Gena Buchwald Stern '84 and Medha Chitnis Pendse '84 also attended. Carol is an associate general counsel of Franklin Templeton in New York and her husband is a partner at Guion, Stevens & Ryback LLP in Litchfield, Conn.

Saralyn Mark writes that she has been appointed a visiting senior lecturer at King's College-London in the Centre of Human and Aerospace Physiological Sciences as well as an ambassador for outreach for the North East Technology Park in Durham, England. She is the only American there, and she serves with England's former Astronomer Royal, Sir Arnold Wolfendale.

Jennifer Heyman McCarthy has been working in the field of gender equality, human rights, and international development since graduation. She currently serves as assistant secretary-general of parliamentarians for Global Action, a network of legislators from 120 countries. Jennifer lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Michael McCarthy (CC '83), and their two children, Isabelle, 17, and Oliver, 13.

Onnie Lovett Schiffmiller reports that she completed the Israel Ministry of Tourism's tour-guide course and is enjoying meeting people from all over the world as she takes them throughout Israel with her company, Israel with Love.

Yin-Yin Shang writes that she currently has a private dental practice in Manhattan. Her youngest daughter, Andrea, is a junior at Barnard, and besides being actively involved in various societies, she is the copy editor for Columbia's student newspaper, the *Spectator*.

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Pamela (Penny) Brandt Jackson '83
Penny Brandt Jackson won Best New Playwright for her play *Safe*, at The Planet Connections Festivity, an arts

festival that promotes socially conscious art. Produced by Ego Actus productions, *Safe* is about two New York City teenage girls with eating disorders. Jackson will bring *Safe* to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this summer.

84

Naomi Barell celebrated her son Zaqary's bar mitzvah recently with friends **Irene Friedland** and **Lynn Kestin Sessler**. Her daughter, Noa, a high school sophomore, is going off to Israel to spend her spring semester in Jerusalem. Naomi continues her work as principal of a local Hebrew School in Vermont, and awaits the arrival of her spring lambs after sugaring season ends.

Catherine Carey got a job after looking for more than a year. She is happily working a professional entry-level job at the Baltimore City Health Department. It certainly doesn't tap all of her skills, but that's what's available, and she is grateful for the work and the friends who cheer her on.

Marla Cohen writes that she and the Jewish Federation of Rockland County have parted ways. After Marla had served as editor of *The Rockland Jewish Reporter* for nearly seven years, the Federation decided to get out of the newspaper business, and continuing with the organization in a new position did not appeal to her. However, the New Jersey/Rockland Jewish Media Group, which had managed the layout, distribution, and advertising for the paper, decided to continue publishing a Jewish community newspaper. *Voilà*, Marla is now the editor of *The Rockland Jewish Standard* and a contributor to the group's *New Jersey Jewish Standard*. Those of you with Bergen County stories, please be in touch!

Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker is pleased to announce that her daughter, Michal Dicker '14, is engaged to Josh

Halpern of Lower Merion, Pa.

Lorraine Newman Mackler reports that working in the City of Pittsburgh law department for the past three years has allowed her to view the opportunities in urban areas, both mundane and interesting. Pittsburgh's renewed vibrancy is leading to a great deal of development, economic vitality, and a flowering of the natural environment. Working on these things has been a respite from the world of litigation. Her four kids are growing, with the oldest, Hannah '10, now working at City Center, and loving life on her own. A slightly bereft mother, Lorraine wishes Hannah could "apparate" to her house in Pittsburgh every night even for a few moments. Turning 50 is interesting for Lorraine as she feels much, much younger inside. Because she sometimes feels overloaded with responsibilities, her goal for this year is to have more fun!

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85

Wow. Sometimes you ask for news and hear not a peep. This time the responses came flooding in and the Class of '85 has been busy. If you didn't make it into Class Notes this time, that is because of space limitations but PLEASE send us your emails again next month so we can update our class with further developments.

Bettina Gilois (formerly Giloi), sends an e-mail about two movie projects. Bettina was the script writer for *Glory Road*. (Note from Karen O.: A movie I loved and my kids enjoyed as well.) The first project is an untitled memoir that will tell the story of how Carter Paysinger, a factory worker's son from South Central Los Angeles, teamed with Steven Fenton,

son of the mayor of Beverly Hills, to shake up the status quo and elect Paysinger as the first African-American principal in the 80-plus year history of Beverly Hills High. Fenton and Paysinger will write the book with Bettina. In the second film, Shiloh Fernandez will play Johnny Tapia, the five-time world boxing champion, in the film *Johnny*. Eddie Alcazar is directing the indie film and cowriting the script with Bettina. Anonymous Content is producing the film, which is based on true events of Tapia's early years.

Sharon Tubman Green writes from sunny San Diego that she has sent her first daughter to the University of Miami in Florida. She hopes to do architectural engineering and Barnard did not offer that—otherwise that is where she would have encouraged her to apply.

Nanci Adler writes from Amsterdam that her new (third) book came out this year: *Keeping Faith with the Party: Communist Believers Return from the Gulag* (Indiana University Press, 2012), based on oral histories, state archives, and unpublished memoirs of gulag survivors. Next year it will come out in a Russian translation (ROSSPEN, 2013).

Aimee Imundo, who is working in-house as an attorney for GE, writes that she was very honored last month to accept a pro bono champion award from the Children's Law Center, the largest direct legal services organization in D.C. and a powerful force in children's advocacy, in recognition of a pro bono partnership she put together between GE's Washington D.C. office and Arnold & Porter. The program has been recognized as a trendsetter in partnerships that bring in-house legal organizations and outside firms together to advance pro bono initiatives. The program, part of a medical-legal partnership between Children's Law Center and D.C.'s Children's Hospital, helps children, who are referred by hospital-run neighborhood clinics, get needed services from public schools. Doctors can now spot learning disabilities and other barriers to children getting educational services, and can refer these cases to the partnership, where GE lawyers team with an Arnold & Porter lawyer to advocate in the school system for them. They have had lots of positive outcomes.

Emily Sahlman Karaszewski is very excited to report that her daughter, Carver,

just started her first year at Barnard. She's keeping the Glaser-Sahlman-Stoffel-Karaszewski legacy alive, and Emily couldn't be prouder. She recently started a new journey as well, selling real estate in Los Angeles for Sotheby's International Realty. Her husband continues his work as a filmmaker in Hollywood, and their son, Jack, although he cannot follow in his sister's footsteps to Barnard, is pursuing his own adventure....She writes: "My extended family still live, play, and work hard in New York City, while I hold down the fort, and soak up the sun in sunny California....Come visit sometime."

Jaimy Yim Kim similarly reports from Dallas, Texas that her daughter Mariel Kim also started her first year at Barnard this fall. It is very exciting to have the second generation now in the same classes as their mothers!

Mattie Cohan also tells us she has a new job as associate general counsel at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. (*Note from Karen O: Mattie and I recently met for lunch in D.C. and it was very fun to reminisce.*) She still is acting and recently performed in a storytelling show.

Thanks all for all the great news!! It was great to hear from you and we can't wait to hear from more of you soon.

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87

Tracey Donner Finch left New York City seven years ago to live in rural Connecticut. She and her husband, Dr. Douglas Finch, live in Kent with their 8-year-old son, Jacob. Dr. Finch is chairman of medicine at Sharon Hospital. Doug and Tracey met on a blind date and recently celebrated their 11th anniversary. Their transition to country life has been

smooth and very enjoyable. Tracey enjoys new sports every year and has taken up horseback riding since leaving the city. She started her own business recently. Called Pinch Hitters, it's a 24/7 concierge service with offices in New York and Kent. After jobs in public relations and government, Tracey enjoys volunteering and working on her start-up and hopes to expand her services to Europe. She would like to meet any Connecticut-area alumnae. She can be reached at tracey@pinchhitters.biz or at 860-927-4313.

Margo Garrett O'Brien writes: "I am currently working as a commercial interior designer. Current projects include automotive dealerships, state university dormitories, and veterans' hospitals. Before my career in design, I was a stay-at-home mom for 10 years. My children are ages 15 and 17. My eldest is a senior and we have been on the college tour. She is applying to Barnard, which would make her the second generation of Barnard women in our family. She just returned from a trip to China and Mongolia where she worked in local schools teaching English.

My son is a rising sophomore and his hobbies include producing stop-motion movies and running cross country. He is on the Certamen (Latin quiz bowl team) for his school. Our family enjoys travelling and this summer we went on a Mediterranean cruise."

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89

This quarter I heard from our class president, **Namita Modi**, who reports:

"After 14 years at Dennis Wedlick Architect, I have left to start my own firm. I am taking some time off until the new year to take care of some personal matters but should be in full swing by 2013. I am also planning a mini-reunion for our class again soon. It's been too long!"

Jennifer Jackson-Strage, who lives in Florida, is very proud of her oldest son, Taylor, a freshman at Penn State in the Marine Corps ROTC program. "Can't believe I have a child old enough to be in college!"

Please send me your news. I would love to hear from you!

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90

Nina Lorez Collins writes that after divorcing about six years ago, she decided she no longer wanted to work in book publishing, so she sold her agency and said good-bye to an 18-year career as a literary scout/agent. Since then, she has slowly started to move in a new direction. She is writing a memoir about her mother; she is halfway through the narrative medicine master's program at Columbia; she is enrolled in a year-long life-coach training program; and she is doing hospice-volunteer work with Calvary Hospital. Nina is interested in possibly setting up a life-coaching practice helping women deal with transitions of loss: death, divorce, empty nest, illness, etc. She is busy and enjoying the journey. Her eldest daughter, Violet, 18, left for Boston University in September, and daughter Ruby, 14, is now at boarding school at Exeter. Her daughter Ella, 14, and son, Bruno, 12, are still at home and attend St. Ann's in Brooklyn Heights, where they live. Nina's blog is ninalorezcollins.com.

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91

Suzanne Kling married Barry Langman on October 14 in Chestnut Hill, Mass. Many Barnard '91 alumnae were in attendance: **Sara Bucholtz, Danielle Remis Hackel, Adena Lebeau, Stephanie Newman Samuels, Sharon Waller, and Julie Zuckerman**. Other classes were also represented: Lauren Cooper '03, Karen Dine '88, Sharon Flatto '90, Diane Kushnir Halivni '92, Shoshana Jacobs '92, Beth Levine '87, and Shuly Rubin-Schwartz '74. Suzanne directs programming in North America for the Shalom Hartman Institute and Barry is a real estate attorney at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. She is very happy to be living back on the Upper West Side, and she and Barry also maintain a home base in Brookline, Mass.

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92

Hi, everyone. This is my first column as class co-correspondent, and I am so happy to hear from all of you. For everyone who hasn't written, please send me your news for next time.

I just went bowling with my first-year Barnard roommate, **Deborah Yu**, and we reminisced about the old days. I must say that taking bowling for gym at Barnard was probably one of the most useful classes I've ever taken. ("Shake hands with the pins, ladies!")

My co-correspondent, **Jenny Milchman**, has been super busy lately: She will be hitting the road with husband, Josh Frank (CC '92), and their first- and third-graders, Sophie and Caleb, in January. The reason for the trip is the publication of Jenny's debut novel, *Cover of Snow*, which will be heralded by a combination of bookstore and book club visits, appearances at libraries and schools, and of course, "car schooling" the kids. Jenny would love to see as

many Barnard alumnae as possible on her travels, so please get in touch via her website jennymilchman.com.

Joanna Samuels is living on the Upper West Side with her husband and two children, Orli, 7, and Natan, 4. After her rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2002, she served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Habonim, on West 66th Street. She is now serving as the executive director of the Manny Cantor Center, an innovative Jewish community center on the Lower East Side that will bring rich, poor, Jewish, non-Jewish, old, young, and all other kinds of diversity together under one roof.

Supermom **Aviva Patz** lives in Montclair, N.J., with her husband and two girls, Sadie, 11, and Dahlia, 8. She works full time as an editor for Weight Watchers publications and as a freelance writer for magazines such as *Health*, *Redbook*, and *Shape*. In her spare time, she sings in a local pop/punk band, Client No. 9, and runs the huge annual fundraiser for her daughters' elementary school.

Kathleen Madden continues to teach for the Barnard alumnae office and at Sotheby's Institute of Art, organizing courses focused on contemporary art in New York as well as originating exhibition ideas and books. One such project is a publication for Ridinghouse, London about the legendary feminist artist Carolee Schneemann. And she's nearly completed a major gut-renovation of a brownstone on West 120th Street.

Abigail Hepner Gross lives in Englewood, N.J., with her husband, Robert Gross (CC '90), an architect working in New York City. They have three boys: Max, who just celebrated his bar mitzvah this past February, and Judah and Darius, twins who are 11. This past September, she started as the director of communications for SINAI Schools, which is an umbrella of several schools at the forefront of special education serving Jewish children with learning and/or developmental disabilities throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Katherine (Kate) Fredland is living in Parsippany, N.J., with her funny, smart, and energetic 5-year-old daughter, and their dog and cats. She's a matrimonial lawyer in Denville, N.J., and really enjoys her work helping people through difficult transitions.

Katherine Brooking coauthored a book that will be published on April 4

by Penguin. It's called *The Real Skinny: Appetite for Health's 101 Fat Habits & Slim Solutions*.

Victoria Stewart has two big pieces of news. At press time, she was expecting baby number two, a girl, and her play, *Rich Girl*, will premiere at George Street Playhouse, March 12–April 7, and then move on to the Cleveland Playhouse, April 19–May 12. Victoria's been in touch with **Ann Gerschefski**, **Amber Oteri**, and **Shari Pollack** via Facebook and she got the chance to actually see **Alisha Tonsic** in the flesh in the past year. Cristina Pippa (CC '02) has just moved to Minneapolis, so their children have play dates together.

Catherine McKay Araiza had a great time at Reunion this year. The major highlight was getting to spend time with **Michelle Sipe** and **Maydelle Fason Liss**. Catherine manages a global learning and development team that supports Shell's energy commodity traders from Barbados, Dubai, Houston, London, Rotterdam, and Singapore.

Daedre (Dae) Levine is still in Sydney, Australia with her husband, Wade Smith, and their girls Sullivan, 9, and Georgia, 5. She started a new job earlier this year as managing director of Republic of Everyone, a communications-strategy consulting agency. She also recently served as the volunteer chair of Democrats Abroad Australia, the official arm of the Democratic National Committee that operates abroad to make sure that overseas voters registered and voted during President Obama's reelection campaign. She also sings in a cocktail/lounge/jazz band called Alt Zed.

As for me, I am still living on the Upper West Side (I've never left) with my husband and two kids, and I have my own fashion consultancy.

Don't forget to write! —ES

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Finding Her Write Path

Kathy Ebel '89

Despite winning three creative writing prizes while at Barnard, Kathy Ebel wasn't sure how she could make a living as a writer after graduation. "A lot of my friends were working on film and television projects, so I drifted into that world, landing as a production assistant on the soap opera, *Another World*," says Ebel.

She rose up through the ranks of the show, eventually landing in the writers' room. In the ensuing years, Ebel racked up accomplishments, including stints writing for television hits such as *Law and Order*. "I liked my work, and I knew I was good at it. But I also knew that to be happy, I needed to go back to fiction."

She started with a short story about a Barnard graduate trying to navigate a complicated web of family, friends, and love. She shared it with a few friends, including the woman who eventually became her editor. The positive feedback motivated her to carve out time to turn the story into a novel. "For a year, from four to six in the morning, six days a week, I wrote," says Ebel. "And because it was something I wanted to do, the process was joyous." Although parallels exist between the author and the fictional Claudia—Claudia gets a job on a soap called *Hope Valley*—Ebel is grateful for the two decades of experience she has on her main character. "I really condensed years of life lessons into Claudia's journey." Not only that, but the lessons she learned writing scripts were invaluable in structuring the novel. "In television, there's what's called an act-out right before the commercial break, which is the emotional high point that will keep a viewer coming back. I spent a lot of time figuring out how to add them into my book."

Ebel is already outlining her next novel, which she explains is broader in scope than *Claudia Silver to the Rescue*. "In *Claudia*, I really wanted to explore one character's personal journey, and explore how it's the mistakes and missteps you make that can help you step forward to who you want to be."

—Anna Davies '05



20th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

93

Julie Hyman is a trial and appellate attorney specializing in matrimonial law, has been appointed to Hudson Valley Bank's business development board, and serves as vice president of the New York Women's Bar Association. She is very proud of her pet family, especially her singing dog, Rocky, and has worked to change co-op board policies regarding pets.

Michele McCarthy got married this past April and celebrated with some of

our classmates, including **Elicia Lisk Blumberg** and Regina Angeles '94. Michele recently returned to practicing law after a stint as a human resources manager for the North Shore–Long Island Jewish Health System. She is currently associate counsel at the New York City Health and Hospital Corporations.

Selena Kuo-McCaul recently became a member of the board for the Barnard Club of Connecticut, and **Sun Min** and her partner, Jason Amster (CU Law '05) recently moved to Forest Hills, N.Y.

Ayaka Suzuki assumed the position of deputy director of the Africa I division in the department of political affairs for the United Nations. Previously, Ayaka

served as acting chief of staff in the United Nations support mission in Tripoli, after her role as chief of the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration section in the United Nations department of peacekeeping operations.

Rabbi **Lori Shapiro** has spent the past 20 years travelling the world, becoming a rabbi, and settling down with an amazing husband. They live with their labradoodle in the Venice Canals in Venice, Calif. She serves as a rabbi at the University of Southern California, and is beginning a "thinking person's creative Jewish community" in Venice called The Open Temple. The group will be meeting at a unique performance space Lori's husband created called the Electric Lodge.

Caroline Pet Ceniza-Levine is currently producing a short film and web series in the action/gaming space. Look for *The Battle Below* to roll out around holiday time.

Thank you to all of you for continuing to share your stories with me. I have truly enjoyed growing older with you, and I look forward to seeing you at our 20th reunion.

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94

An online series of articles for which **Jennifer Zahn Waldref** was a contributing writer received a 2010 Exceptional Merit in Media Award (EMMA) from the National Women's Political Caucus. The series, *The Memo: Special Report: Status of U.S. Women*, won in the category of Exceptional Internet Story. The piece focused on employment barriers that persist for U.S. women. The 2010 Emmas were held October 14, 2010, at the Cornell Club in New York City.

Marcela Acuria Landres wrote to announce that she cofounded the Comadres y Compadres Writers' Conference. It took place at the Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York on October 6, and provided Latino writers with access to published Latino authors as well as agents and editors who have a proven track record

of publishing Latino writers. When not organizing literary events, Marcela is an editorial consultant who helps writers get published by editing their work and educating them on the business side of publishing. In other words, she gets paid to read cool manuscripts by talented writers in the comfort of her own home in Brooklyn, which she shares with her husband, Elliot Podhorzer, and their Westie, Gracie. Fellow alumnae are welcome to get in touch with Marcela by visiting her web site, marcelalandres.com.

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95

Ilise S. Carter has completed her memoirs, *Pain-Proof: Becoming the Lady Aye*. She uses her sideshow skills in delivering Alternative Speakers Bureau talks to corporations on the subjects of creativity and overcoming obstacles.

Bernadette Clemens is artistic director of the new classical Mamaí Theatre Company in Cleveland. She directs Euripides's *Medea*, scheduled for June 2013.

Jocelyn Rubin Ulrich is director of scientific and regulatory affairs at PhRMA in Washington D.C., working on regulatory policy advocacy in emerging markets. She lives in Maryland with her husband, James, and children Lana, 2, and Gus, 5. Jocelyn received her master's in public health from NYU in global health policy in 2009.

Rosesara Feinerman Greenspun had a baby girl, Liliana Rebecca, on July 4. Liliana joins big brothers Andrew, 9, and Matthew, 6. Rosesara works in marketing for ThankYou Rewards at Citigroup.

Anne-Christine Hoff is an assistant professor of English at Jarvis Christian College, a historically black college in Hawkins, Texas. She lives in Hawkins with her 18-month-old daughter Juliana. She would love to hear from Barnard friends and classmates.

Amita Umanikar is a volunteer coordinator at Jacob Riis Neighborhood Settlement House as part of the NYC Civic Corps program.

Elizabeth Rachel Lemon is a

research operations engineer at Nuance Communications in the mobility R&D division.

Binta Niambi Brown made Fortune's 2012 "40 under 40" list of rising stars in business. She is a corporate lawyer and talented fund-raiser who will now take a break from politics in order to help fund more women-owned tech startups.

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96

Ronak Kordestani wrote that her newest show, *Something Borrowed, Something New*, will premiere on TLC on February 8, so be sure to tune in. It's a fun wedding-dress show that pits family dresses against new ones. Her ABC show, *Recipe Rehab*, is wrapping up its first season on Saturday afternoons on your local ABC affiliate. On a personal note, Ronak recently returned from Leadership Assembly at Barnard. She's been before but was so happy this time around because she got to buy Barnard "schwag" at our beautiful new store. For any of you who haven't been to campus in the past two years, I urge you to visit because it's pretty remarkable how much it has changed.

We also heard from **Nim Tottenham**. She and her husband, Joseph Delafield (CC '97), are the proud parents of two daughters, Beatrice and Audrey, and have been living in Los Angeles for the past few years. Nim is an assistant professor in the psychology department at UCLA, and her research examines the effects of early life stress on human brain development. Her laboratory's research is described at tottenhamlab.psych.ucla.edu. She has authored 39 scientific publications and is a recent recipient of the National Institute of Mental Health's Biobehavioral Research Award for innovative new scientists. She remembers her time at Barnard very fondly and wishes the best for all in the class of 1996!

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97

Barnard's Leadership Assembly was held on October 25 and 26, attended by **Megan Kelly** and **Melissa Edmands Marsh**. The event provided an exceptional opportunity to connect with graduates of the other 90s classes who have lots in common and experienced many of the same events as we did—like the snow storm of 1994 and the strike by administrative staff that closed many classrooms. It seems that there would be a benefit to expanding our community and conversations across the decade.

The major conversation topic was fundraising. As many of you know, Barnard's endowment is substantially less than that of our liberal-arts college competitors or the other Seven Sisters. And, our Class of 1993 is lagging behind (at 14 percent participation). Please pick up your pens to pledge, or answer the call for phone-a-thon and pledge.

While we are on the finance topic, a presentation was made by Linda Bell, provost and dean of the faculty, who has done some excellent research on the gender gap in salaries. Bret Silver, vice president for development, shared a unique vision for engaging an increasingly diverse cohort of alumnae and current students in a life of learning and giving.

Keep in mind that Barnard offers a wide range of resources for alumnae, from career-service counseling, which can be done face-to-face in New York City, or virtually from around the world, to a great website where you can connect with peers, access free subscriptions to digital journals, and provide updates for Class Notes!

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15th Reunion May 30–June 2, 2013

98

I hope everyone can make it back to campus for our 15th (gasp!) reunion. The planning committee is hard at work to make it the best one yet.

On to news about our classmates. **Amy Boutell** has started a Facebook group, Barnard Writers & Publishing Professionals. (It's not just for the class of 1998.) Amy touts **Liza Klaussmann's** new novel, *Tigers in Red Weather*.

Elizabeth Schaeffer Brown '00 writes in about a new socially responsible venture she started that helps empower women through ethical fashion called Maiden Nation (maidennation.com). The site sells women-made products made in (maiden) Argentina, Haiti, Rwanda, the U.K., the U.S., and more. The featured product is a friendship bracelet designed by Chan Lu and made in Haiti by Sean Penn's newly formed women's co-op, Hands Together.

Amy Bromberg Wolfe lives in Brooklyn with her husband and four children, and works as a writer. She has a weekly business-news column in a Jewish magazine, and she is "taking an awesome journalism class at The New School." She survived Sandy with power and phone lines intact. She is in touch with **Helen Eliassian** and **Sharon Unis** and has been hanging out in Manhattan.

Courtney Greene lives in Somerville, Mass., and enjoys her work in the Harvard College Fund. She met "some fabulous Barnard alums" from other classes at an alumnae event a couple of years ago and they continue to meet for a casual monthly book club, which now includes non-alumnae, as well. They miss seeing **Lavinia Mampara**, whose mom duties prevent her from attending.

Melanie Vickers Torosyan and her husband had their second child, Ella, in May 2011, and moved to Boston in January 2012. She is now at Boston Children's Hospital Trust doing major-

gift fundraising. She and her husband celebrated their 10th anniversary with a trip to Barnard and Columbia, where they met in 1996. She says "The Diana Center was amazing to see."

Christina Mullins Carter got married in 2007, and has two stepsons who are now 11 and 15. Christina works at the Travis County, Texas, courthouse as a court clerk, and her husband works at the Texas department of public safety. She says, "Our life is not the most exciting with extra degrees and amazing careers and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, but we are happy with our trips to Vegas, the beach, San Antonio, and just enjoying life in general."

Please join our Barnard Class of 1998 Facebook page—only about one-quarter of our class has so far!

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00

We are delighted to report that in September, our very own class vice president, **Cordelia Heaney**, started a new position as executive director of women's policy for the state of Louisiana. In addition to her other responsibilities as part of the alumnae leadership committee for our class, Cordelia has been working actively to connect with New Orleans alumnae.

We are long overdue in reporting that **Mary Gallaudet** is living in Cambridge, Mass. with her husband, David, and works as a psychotherapist in the Boston area.

Additionally, **Shannon Herbert**, who lives in L.A., is now an associate professor of English at Santa Monica College. She earned her PhD at the University of Chicago. She and partner, Suzanne, welcomed their first child, Gabriel David, on April Fool's Day last year.

We hope all of our fellow alumnae are safe and well in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. Please let us know how you are doing.

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03

Erin McConnell and her husband, Avi Gurland-Blaker, welcomed their son, Alexander Gerard, in February 2012. They live in Washington Heights. They enjoy being near Grandma Judy Gurland '64.

Nita Mickley Davanzo is the new drama and English literature teacher at Highland Hall Waldorf High School in Northridge, Calif.

Alexandra Murphy received her PhD in sociology from Princeton University. She has a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Poverty Center at the University of Michigan.

Maria Coleman English obtained her MBA from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business in May. She and her husband welcomed twin boys Nathaniel Joseph and Alexander Dale in June.

Abby Smenton Marquand and her husband, Sean, welcomed daughter Vivienne in June. If her mother has anything to do with it, Vivienne will be graduating from Barnard in 2034.

Wendy Fok was selected by the director of the Mori Art Museum to exhibit at the next show at the Asia Society in Hong Kong, from January–March 2013. She was selected for the *Creative Ecologies* exhibition in Asia, which ran from November 2012 through January. She returned to the US from her installation at the London Design Festival, where her piece was well reviewed.

Victoria Sears Goldman received her PhD in art history from Princeton University and is working as an independent art historian and provenance researcher on art looted by the Nazis during World War II. She does art and general provenance research for several law firms that practice art law.

Amanda Goldfine Hofman and her husband, Jake, welcomed their daughter, Ella Simone, in February. She is a total joy and they couldn't be happier. Amanda is working part time on her business, Urban Girl Squad, while she is home with Ella.

Michaella Holden took a new position at David Stark Design and Production,

where she manages events ranging from product launches and corporate celebrations to nonprofit galas and private parties.

Dena Goldberg and her partner, Jaime, had a baby boy, Gideon Daniel, in May. Dena and Jaime were legally married in New York by Lauren Goddard '04 and held a celebration brunch for the baby and wedding. Michaella Holden and Maggie Ress '05 attended. Dena teaches high school social studies in Colorado and became a national board-certified teacher last year.

Jessica Alpert Silber and her husband, Jacob, welcomed twins, Theodore "Theo" Wren and Nicola Jeanette, in July. Jessica is working as a radio producer at WBUR, a Boston NPR affiliate.

Judith Horwitz Glassenberg finished a pediatrics residency in June and is now a chief resident. She and her husband, Sam, had a little girl, Ariella, in January 2011.

Hila Ratzabi recently launched Ratzabi Editorial Services, featuring her freelance editing portfolio, and is excited about the new projects coming her way.

Alison Butterfass Zagat married John Zagat in June. Bari Handwerger (CC '03), **Hattie Quarnstrom**, and **Rosemary Sitler** were in the bridal party, and **Michelle Bryant**, Victoria Goldman, and **Caroline Ng** attended.

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04

Marcela Vallarino reports some tragic news. "My husband and I welcomed our first born in August 2010; I had a great pregnancy and our daughter, Amanda, was perfect. At six weeks old she was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) Type 1. We tried to keep her as healthy as possible, but she passed away on May 13 at 21 months old. SMA is the number one killer of infants and young children, and there is currently no treatment or cure. SMA is degenerative, and Type 1s can never sit, stand, speak, eat, swallow, cough, or breathe on their own. The brain is never affected in any way. One in every 40 people unknowingly

carries the gene responsible for SMA. One in 10,000 babies is born with SMA. A cure is viable but funding is desperately needed. I encourage every person seeking to begin a family to get tested and prevent more children being born with SMA and families having to go through what we did. To learn more about our story please visit amandacardoze.com." Our thoughts are with Marcela and her family during this time.

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05

For the first time since taking the mantle of class correspondent, **Deena Shanker** forgot to send out the class-wide call for notes. In addition to offering her sincerest apologies, she thought she would use the opportunity to provide a short update on some friends. (She's been saving them for just this purpose.)

Bianca Livi is killing it as an account manager, automotive, at Google in New York City.

Lindsay Braverman, manager, publicity and communications, Disney Theatrical Group, just brought *Newsies* to Broadway and will next be doing the publicity for Deena's upcoming one-woman show, *A Middle Child's Lament: A Story of Triumph and Stretchy Pants*, once it goes into production. Jenny Cohen '06 looks forward to her front-row seat. Lindsay and Bianca also report doing something recently with other Barnard alumnae, including Sophie Scharf '07, Maya Pariser '08 and Jennifer Smokler Zigler '08, though they don't remember exactly what, but are pretty sure there was a baby involved. Jenny swears the baby wasn't hers.

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06

Amalia Holub is pursuing a master's degree in city planning at MIT, where she is focusing on sustainable transportation planning and policy. She is also a research assistant working on a project related to the use of smartphone technology to improve urban mobility in developing cities.

Rachel Shapiro writes: "In 2010 I went on a safari to Kenya, fell in love with my safari guide, a third-generation Kenyan, and ended up staying in Africa after the week-long safari. I moved to Nairobi in June 2011 and have been working on high-end, exclusive safaris with Phil ever since. We just returned from a trip to Mozambique, and I've now also been on some incredible safaris to Tanzania, Rwanda, and South Africa, in addition, of course, to Kenya. We've also spent time exploring Argentina, Peru, the Amazon, and the Galápagos, where we also organize trips."

On May 12, **Roseann Burkard Competello** married her high-school sweetheart, Vincent Competello. The couple now lives in Little Neck, N.Y.

This past June, **Lora Lithgow Dever** moved to Austin, Texas with her husband. She works for the Austin independent school district as a mentor/teacher in an elementary school where she coaches first-year teachers on instructional best practices.

In August 2012, **Gabrielle Gutierrez** earned her PhD in neuroscience for her work in Eve Marder's lab at Brandeis University. She is currently working as a postdoc in the same lab but is looking for her next postdoc position in Europe, ideally in Berlin.

Sarah McNally also earned a graduate degree in August 2012: a master of science in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She works as a pediatric nurse practitioner in a small primary-care office in Atlantic City. Sarah still lives in Philadelphia and, from time to time, works as a registered nurse in the cardiac intensive-care unit at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. On a recent trip to New York City, she caught up with many Barnard friends including **Katherine Lamper**, who graduated from Fordham Law School in May 2012. Kate works as a senior compliance officer at SMBC Capital

Markets. Sarah also saw **Anna Bennett**, who teaches at P.S. 59, the Beekman Hill International School.

On September 8, **Karoline Raeder** married Dr. Alexander Lakotta, a management consultant at Capgemini, at Lake Constance in Germany. Her best friend from Barnard, **Jessica Brown**, attended the wedding.

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07

Nomaduma Masilela is in her fourth year of the art history PhD program at Columbia University and is studying modern and contemporary Senegalese and South African art.

April Hovav recently moved to Los Angeles where she is pursuing a PhD in sociology at the University of Southern California.

Earlier this year, **Rebecca Levine** graduated from the University of Washington School of Law. She is currently living in Seattle and clerking in the Washington court of appeals. Meanwhile, **Gillian DiPietro** is exceptionally relieved to have graduated law school and passed both the New York and New Jersey bars. She is psyched to be starting work in January at the Brooklyn district attorney's office, where she will channel Sam Waterston and Angie Harmon day in and day out.

Since graduation **Melanie Hildebrandt** has lived in the financial district. She currently runs investor relations at a \$1.5 billion macro/commodity hedge fund based in New York City. As she did during her college days, she still enjoys singing and now can occasionally be seen on the New York cabaret circuit. She travels as much as possible and just returned from a safari in Kenya.

Alana Dligacz Kenigsberg married

Ron Kenigsberg on April 4 in Cancún, Mexico. She recently started working at an ad tech company called AppNexus. She is thrilled that she is related to fellow 2007 alumna **Katherine Kluger Kenigsberg** (who married Ron's brother, Dan, in October 2011).

Meredith Picard just completed 20 weeks of Army basic training, JAG school, and officer's school, and is now a commissioned first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, JAG Corps. She is stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga., in the legal assistance group, supporting the 15th Regimental Signal Brigade.

Yasmine Cathell just returned from Tibet where she distributed water filtration kits with International Voices for Care, a humanitarian organization dedicated to providing access to clean water and basic healthcare education.

Liza Eaton works as a talent coordinator at NBC News and loves it. She particularly enjoyed being part of election day. She keeps in touch with many of her Barnard classmates and recently attended the wedding of **Stephanie Guttman** to Liron Vilheym.

For the past two years **Jennifer Gottstein** has been working at The Go Game, a company that designs high-tech gaming experiences around the world, in addition to cooking games, creativity exercises, educational games, flash mobs, marketing games, mini "Olympics," and team-building experiences. Jenny has produced citywide food-truck scavenger hunts, road-trip games to benefit state parks, and zombie-themed disaster-preparedness games. She would love to reconnect with her old classmates and the greater alumnae network!

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09

Katharine McCully Murphy married Michael Murphy in Gloucester, Mass. this past April. The wedding party also included **Chelsea Burger**. Katie has been working at the advertising agency

Digitas in Boston for three years, and after spending two years on General Motors, she is currently working on the Goodyear account.

Tess Brustein recently moved out to the Bay Area in California to found an education technology startup called SmarterCookie, a website that helps teachers get more support in the classroom using video.

After working for Bank of America for three years in New York City, **Jade Smith** left Wall Street for an opportunity to go abroad for a year. She is currently doing a Princeton in Latin America Fellowship in Chile. She works at a global nonprofit organization called Endeavor, whose mission is to promote and support entrepreneurship in emerging markets as a means of economic development and job creation. She works on their search and selection team in the Patagonia office to find entrepreneurs with innovative small businesses that have significant growth potential. Since studying abroad in Brazil four years ago, Jade was hard-pressed to find an opportunity to go back to Latin America. Now she is living her dream and learning a lot as well. She's hoping to run into other Barnard alumnae while abroad.

Suzanna Denison is currently living in Vermont, teaching women, gender and queer studies at Green Mountain College. When not teaching in the classroom, she is teaching yoga on the mat, both in Vermont and just over the border in New York. She hopes that any fellow Barnard alums who end up in Vermont this winter will stop by for a cup of tea!

Rose (Rosie) Karon is a project manager with Steiner NYC, a real estate developer, managing the design, development, marketing, construction management, and operation of commercial and multifamily new construction. She was recently appointed to the board of directors of Women in Housing and Finance.

After spending three years at Barclays Capital, **Julie Malyn** recently joined JP Morgan Chase as an HR partner for Chase wealth management. She is currently living on the Upper West Side.

Christine (Chrissy) Lee is in a clinical psychology PhD program at the Ferkauf Graduate School of Yeshiva University. She would love to get in touch with fellow alumnae interested in clinical programs.

Alexandra Loizzo-Desai completed

her MA in English at Fordham University in May of 2011. This past August, she married her high school sweetheart Viraj Desai in a three-day Hindu/Catholic ceremony. Guests included **Nicole Donnachie, Aviva Erlich, Celina Kelly, Jessica Lowry, Ariel Merrick**, and bridesmaid **Nicole Matthews**. She is currently living with her husband in Boston and working as an admissions representative at Newbury College.

Robin Broder Hytowitz married Jonathan Hytowitz this past June in Los Angeles. In attendance were several of her former Barnard roommates and friends. She is currently working on her master's degree in electrical engineering at Arizona State University, concentrating on electric power and energy systems. Her thesis focuses on optimizing a micro-grid for solar-power generation and electric vehicles. —AVL

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10

After graduating from Barnard, **Miriam Miller** attended the Harvard Graduate School of Education and received her master's in higher education. She then returned to New York City, where she joined the Barnard admissions office and helped welcome the class of 2016.

WenWen Yang was promoted to revenue management consultant at Hilton Worldwide. On October 7, she married Kagan Strayer.

Cyrena Lee serves as director of ReFashioner, which recently won Project Pop-Up NYC, a Bloomberg-sponsored competition that recognizes and awards emerging innovative fashion retailers and fashion-related technology companies. Cyrena won the award after relaunching ReFashioner's swap site to include consignment and selling.

In September, **Marley Weiner** entered her first year of rabbinical school at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote, Pa.

Caroline Leone relocated from New

York City to Washington, D.C. to work for the Advisory Board Company, a health-care research, technology, and consulting firm.

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11

Marjorie (Jorie) Dugan gained experience in NGOs and worked in Asia and Africa last year. She worked in the Philippines for the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women—Asia Pacific, conducting field research on trafficking in indigenous populations, advocating for legislative amendments to current laws/policies, and helping with outreach in red-light areas to combat trafficking and prostitution. In South Africa, Jorie works for Ikamva Labantu in the Cape Town townships to help establish a parent center, and to improve early-childhood development access and quality for preschool-aged, orphaned, and vulnerable children.

Maggie Astor spent six months as a political reporter for the *International Business Times*, and she is now working as a copy editor and web producer for *The New York Times*.

Aditi Shankar works as an analyst at a health-care management consulting firm in New Jersey, trying to find her way up the corporate world while learning and growing through the journey. When not busy with work, she hopes to teach herself how to play the guitar or learn a new language, as music and culture—in any form or style—interest her.

Kaley Hanenkrat has moved to Kyiv, Ukraine for a Fulbright fellowship to research political activism and democratization. Her research introduced her to fascinating and incredible people who are committing themselves to making their country better in spite of the discouraging undemocratic actions of the government and political leaders.

Kalema Boateng is currently the New York City president of Hollaback!, an organization that works to end street harassment, and a freelance consultant at a branding firm in Manhattan. She is studying for her graduate-school

examination while assisting with multiple community-based endeavors for event-coordinating and education reform.

Liza Eliano started as an editorial assistant at the New York-based art blogazine *Hyperallergic*, writing art reviews and news stories. She was also interning in the curatorial department at MoMA PS1 in Long Island City, and while still staying active in the art world, has moved on to a full-time position as a publicity assistant at Random House.

Robyn Gordon is currently living in New Orleans and is in her first year at Tulane Law School. This summer, she worked at the New England Innocence Project in Boston helping to free wrongfully convicted prisoners. She hopes everyone has had a great year since graduation!

Tiara Miles moved to Louisville, Ky., to work for General Electric's appliances and lighting businesses. She joined its commercial training program as an area sales manager. In the next year, she will relocate to another U.S. city and work as a field sales manager.

Jillian Schreiber lives in New York and is a medical student at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is doing research in the department of surgery and is the layout editor for the college's art and literature magazine.

Yuhan Chen lives in the fast-paced, fashion-forward city and the financial center of Asia: Hong Kong. She is working as an assistant executive in the consumer and digital marketing department of Edelman Public Relations Worldwide.

Sharone Golan Tobias is getting her master's degree at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, in international security policy. She plans on working for the Department of Defense. In the meantime, she has also been working at *Foreign Affairs* magazine.

Anna Ward has been working at a research firm on Wall Street, recruiting experts in various industries from all over the world for consulting services. She spends her free time writing a blog on cheese, and volunteering at cheese classes throughout New York City.

Elizabeth (Libby) Brittain has remained in New York City, living in the West Village and working at Hearst Ventures, the growth-stage venture-capital wing of Hearst Corporation. The company makes investments in technology

The Accidental Officer

Pamela Cole '05

"Don't be afraid to rewrite your life," says Pamela Cole. At 29, she has changed career paths twice, first when she realized medical school would not be a good academic fit for her, and second, when she discovered sports consulting was frustrating and unfulfilling. She speaks candidly about her struggles because she wants other young people to realize, "Sometimes quitting is not failure, if you're giving up something that's not right for you."

Cole's first career detour came at Barnard. As a biochemistry major, she had planned on medical school, but realized she "wasn't really a math and science person." After graduation, she pursued a master's in nutrition and applied physiology at Columbia. Unlike most of her classmates, Cole specialized in men's health. She had always been a big fan of mixed martial arts and was concerned about unhealthy eating among athletes trying to "make weight." To help with her mission, she founded a sports-nutrition consulting company.

Encountering "a lot of sensitive male egos" and having to compete for clients with "gym rats who had no formal education in sports nutrition but looked really masculine," she realized that her professors had been right when they warned her against trying to work with professional athletes. Then, she had an opportunity through her consulting company to work with American soldiers for two weeks in Japan, and Cole realized her calling. "As a civilian, I felt like I was outside a really cool club and wanted to be a part of it," she says. She recently completed officer training and is now a medical service corps officer/dietitian with the Navy, soon to be stationed outside Tokyo.

Cole reiterates the importance of having confidence in your own choices, "That's what Barnard taught me, and that's what feminism is all about."

—Sharon Shively Harrigan, '89



start-ups that are changing the way we produce, consume, and interact with media online. Its portfolio includes companies like Pandora, Brightcove, BuzzFeed, and Hootsuite.

Veronica Krantz has been living with her mother who is her best friend in the world, working hard in the greatest city in the world, making sure to keep socializing with the best friends in the world that she met at the greatest institutions in the world: Barnard College and Columbia University. That's all she could ask for.

Anna Engel married Rami Glatt in January 2011. Among her bridesmaids were her Barnard friends, Ilana Borzak '10 and **Rachel Machefsky**. She currently lives in California with her husband, and has been working at the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles since graduation.

Valerie Berrin is the director of operations for a nonprofit organization in Miami, Fla., founded by her sister. The organization, Health Information Project (HIP), coordinates an innovative, student-led, comprehensive health education program in South Florida public and private high schools. Since its creation in 2009, HIP has worked with approximately 6,000 high school students.

Naima Green
naimapatrice@gmail.com

Sonal Kumar
sonalkumar2011@gmail.com

Emma Goidel was the Dasha Epstein Playwriting Fellow at the Powerhouse Theater/New York Stage and Film, workshopping her thesis play, *A Knee That Can Bend*. Emma is a member of the inaugural class of The Foundry, a new initiative for emerging playwrights in the Philadelphia area. She is also the new administrative assistant at the School of Film at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Also, Emma cast **Victoria Pollack** in her play.

Can (Sharon) Guan is teaching English in China at the Hebei Vocational College of Foreign Affairs, located in Qinhuangdao, China, through the organization English Language Institute/China (ELIC).

Adrienne Hezghia spent the summer volunteering with various anti-sex-trafficking organizations in Thailand, including the Freedom Project, Home of New Beginnings, and Urban Light. Adrienne started this fall as the new research assistant at the Brain Trauma Foundation, in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medical College, researching the relationship between concussions and attention-related disorders.

Katrina Brody Kostro is the research assistant at the New York State Psychiatric Institute at the Columbia University Medical Center. Katrina also DJs every Sunday from 10 AM-12 PM on *The Moonshine Show* on WKCR 89.9FM New York.

Sophie Lambert is the administrator for the European works of art and the antiquities departments at Sotheby's.

Pei-Ying Lin spent October travelling throughout Shanghai, Taiwan, and Xian. She also spent time in Hong Kong with **Melissa Stone**, who has moved to Shanghai to work in the real estate division at Morgan Stanley.

Deborah Samuels has started her first year with Teach for China, teaching English to elementary school students in Yunnan, China.

Amee Wurzburg is a World Partners Fellow with the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) in India. She has been working in Calcutta at an HIV NGO.

In Memoriam

- 1924 **Ida Holzberg**
 1933 **Evelyn Goodman Paxton**, April 20, 1993
 1934 **Jane Stein Aberlin**, October 19, 2012
 1935 **Kathryn Heavey**, September 27, 2011
 1938 **Caroline Babcock Willner**, December 21, 2007
 1939 **Helen Bleibler Hetherington**, October 17, 2012
 1940 **Lois Saphir Lee**, December 10, 2012
 1941 **Margaret Lorini Gunkel**, October 15, 2012
Evelyn Harrison, November 3, 2012
 1942 **Katherine Cooper Cary**, December 4, 2012
Betty Bayer Menke, October 6, 2012
 1947 **Georgina Goodwin**, September 27, 2012
Margaret Weitz Hunter, November 21, 2012
Mary Hayes Tucker, December 8, 2012
Ruth Murphy Walsh, October 8, 2012
 1948 **Mollie Allensworth Combs**, October 26, 2012
Cecilia Kraeling, October 17, 2012
Adrianne Johnson Little, September 24, 2012
Marian Riegel Ross, August 16, 2012
Michela Piacenza Wright, August 18, 2012
 1949 **Loretta Betke Greeley**, November 30, 2012
 1950 **Martha Kahle Diefenbach**, July 7, 2012
Carol Leni Hubbell, January 6, 2012
Dorothy Barr Mehmel, May 19, 2012
 1951 **Anne Keating**, September 1, 2012
 1952 **Doris Gray Roberts**, August 31, 2012
Mary-Eleanor Harrington Schenke, November 20, 2012
 1954 **Marguerite Cook**, September 3, 2012
 1955 **Patricia Circelli**, December 8, 2012
 1957 **Hadassah Teitz Brooks-Morgan**
Alicia Burten Mendelsohn, December 4, 2012
Beatrice Steiner Singer
 1959 **Welcome Skannal Fawcett**, October 15, 2012
Elfriede Kaniuk Israel, December 5, 2012
Ora Frishberg Saloman, November 25, 2011
 1960 **Hermine Cohen Gimble**, November 12, 2009
 1964 **Brenda Dayton Hamilton**, November 14, 2009
 1968 **Edna Bergman Lapkin**, September 27, 2012
 1970 **Rachel Logsdon Ingalls**, October 19, 2012
 1972 **Susan Parker**, November 9, 2012
 1978 **Amy Ober Flanders**, November 13, 2012
 1981 **Bonnie Jacobson**, September 26, 2011

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Katherine Kazarian '12

Katherine Kazarian was elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives in November, representing East

Providence. A Democrat, she won a four-way primary in September. She was urged to run for office by her mother, Michele Halberian Kazarian '77 and her sister, Jacqueline Kazarian '09.

Sound Finances

A charitable gift annuity offers an opportunity to give . . . and receive



Patricia Mallon '63, a natural resources major, believes strongly that women's colleges should continue not only to survive, but also thrive. "I really, really believe that single-sex education should be available," she says. "It dismays me that several of the other [Seven Sister] schools have gone over

to the other side. I thought if I could help, I want to do it." Throughout the years, Mallon had supported Barnard. Then, her late husband discovered charitable gift annuities. After learning how they work, Mallon made a gift to Barnard in 2000, and followed it with additional gifts in 2006 and 2012.

A retired librarian consultant, Mallon makes it clear she isn't wealthy. She simply finds that gift annuities make good economic sense and allow her to provide for herself while also supporting a women's college for future generations.

The way a charitable gift annuity works is that the donor makes a gift to the College of \$10,000 or more and receives an immediate charitable tax deduction. The donor chooses the annuity beneficiary, often the donor herself, and Barnard then pays that person a fixed annual income for life at a rate based on his or her age at the time of the gift. It is possible to name up to two lifetime beneficiaries. An older beneficiary typically receives a higher rate of return, but any donor can establish a higher rate by deferring the annuity payouts to a future date. As an example, Mallon deferred payments on her first gift annuity until she's 73, at which point she'll receive payouts at a double-digit rate. She started receiving quarterly payments, though the terms of the payouts may vary, from her 2006 gift right away, and will begin receiving quarterly payments from her 2012 gift at the end of this year. The annuity payouts have the added benefit of being partially tax free. Upon the lifetime beneficiary's death, any funds remaining in the gift annuity go to Barnard.

Barbara Kelman Ravage '67, an English literature major, is a freelance writer whose income varies greatly from year to year. After a particularly profitable 2009, her accountant advised her to make a major donation to offset her tax bill. She was about to turn 65, and retirement was on her mind. Ravage, who had only intermittently contributed to the College over the years, then decided it was the right time to make a gift to Barnard to set up an annuity. Another profitable period a couple of years later resulted in a second charitable gift annuity to Barnard. "At some point I realized that I have now given Barnard close to 10 times as much as my father paid for a year's tuition back in the 1960s," she says. "He is no longer alive and college tuition has increased more than tenfold, but I feel that in some way I am thanking him for making my Barnard education possible."

Gloria Grubman Sanford '44 believes that her Barnard education enabled her to meet some of the intense challenges she's faced in her life. A self-described "nerd," she was only 15 when she started college, but she relished Barnard's intellectual atmosphere. "I couldn't have found a more perfect environment," Sanford says. "I was determined to become a successful woman and stand on my own two feet." Her father always told her she might have to take care of herself someday; she wanted to be prepared to support herself and "be somebody," as she puts it.

Following graduation, Sanford headed to California for graduate school, having earned a full scholarship. She returned to New York two years later with a master's degree in political science/Latin American political affairs. Bilingual in English and Spanish, she became the official interpreter for the Venezuelan consulate. In time, she married and became the mother of three daughters. Then tragedy struck: Her husband of 18 years died of a heart attack, leaving her to raise their children—ages 3 to 12—on her own. Believing they

"It helps me to think I'm making a contribution when I'm no longer around to make annual gifts." —Ellen Saunders '63

needed her more than ever, she sought a solution that kept her at home but also provided the family with sufficient income. She went back to school and studied finance. "I took to that like a bird takes to flying," she says proudly. A successful investor, she provided for her daughters, put them through college, and helped them buy their first homes.

Sandford had supported Barnard over the years, but her charitable gift annuity in 2007 was her first major gift, and she's currently working out details for another. "Without the education that I got I never would have had the drive or the confidence to figure out what I had to do in my life alone with my girls," she says. Mallon echoes a similar sentiment. "I was relatively shy and scared," she notes, and describes her freshman year at Barnard as the best of her life. "My Barnard education...gave me self-confidence."

For Ellen O'Brien Saunders '63, a medieval-history major, coming to Barnard from a Midwestern public high school was initially a shock, but she learned what excellence is. When she ultimately took on the assignment of co-chair of the planned-giving subcommittee for her class reunion, she learned about the advantages of charitable gift annuities—resulting in her establishment of one in 2012. Saunders feels a lot of women are allergic to learning about money and financial planning; she encourages her friends and alumnae to read about annuities on Barnard's website, barnard.edu/development/planned-gifts/, ask questions, and gather information. She thought carefully about her decision, finding it satisfying from both financial and emotional perspectives. "It helps me to think I'm making a contribution when I'm no longer around to make annual gifts," Saunders says. "I'm giving the College some stability in its planning and its future."

Somewhat intimidated by the accomplishments of some of her classmates (who include Erica Mann Jong and Martha Kostyra Stewart), Mallon avoided reunions until her 20th in 1983. At the final luncheon of Reunion weekend she looked around and saw a table for the class of 1933. "I thought, 'Those women are 50 years out of college and they...look good,'" spurring her to attend her 40- and 45-year reunions. "Now I'm here," she adds. Thanks to her and others like her, the chances are good that many Barnard women will also reach that milestone.

Additional reporting by Stephanie Shestakov '98



LETTERS

Continued from Page 2

truly enjoyed the issue regarding President Obama's Commencement address. As the editors' note says, Jill Abramson graciously agreed to speak at a later date, and she will be outstanding when she does. Women tend to be more patient than men, and I believe that this patience will lead to the election of the first woman president, which I hope I get to see in my lifetime.

—Yolanda Irizarry Giraldo '73
via e-mail

Language Connection

I found the profile of the student learning Marathi particularly delightful ("A Small World After All," Fall 2012), as I am a second generation Maharashtrian-American. I grew up speaking Marathi in the home (my parents are from Mumbai), though I must admit it is getting rusty the older I get. I found it wonderful that your student is devoting her academic studies to such an interesting topic.

There is a fairly large Maharashtrian community in the NY/NJ area so if your student ever needs any resources, feel free to let me know and I would be happy to make some connections/brainstorm with her.

—Shuma Panse '98
via e-mail

Barnard On Wall Street

While I enjoy reading about the achievements of women in the arts, science, and social policy, I was very excited to see the teaser on the front of the Barnard Magazine: "Those First Women on Wall Street" (Fall 2012). I was disappointed, however, that the article only focused on the past and there was not a single comment about Barnard women on Wall Street.

We need to recognize members of our community who have been successful in business including Wall Street. To exclude these women is to limit the true portrait of how women impact the world.

—Karen Wells '89
via e-mail

Music and Evil

I have just read Merri Rosenberg's article "Music's Life Lessons" (Fall 2012) and wonder what Caroline Stoessinger learnt about life having written about Alice Herz-Sommer.

Ms. Stoessinger must have noticed that Herz-Sommer had a horrific life in Theresienstadt and for years thereafter. How can she possibly believe that "the truth is that

people who pursue beauty don't carry hate or vengeance in their hearts"? Herz-Sommer was in Theresienstadt, for goodness sake, where Nazis forced Jews and others to play music for their own cruel pleasure. And we all know that the Nazis carried no hate or vengeance in their hearts!

—Gita Segal Rotenberg '61
Toronto, Ontario
via e-mail

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Continued from Page 3

where everyone was captain and watching high-school music videos in which every girl with a gorgeous voice looked like a model as well. (Jong's generation, by contrast, had Janis Joplin and Mama Cass, incredible musicians who weren't exactly saddled with the simultaneous demands of *Vogue*.) They grew up with parents who were deeply involved in their day-to-day lives and deeply committed to their success. Much of this is fine, and certainly well intentioned. But it has also bequeathed upon this generation a fear of falling short, of disappointing others and their own well-laid plans: a fear of failing.

Recently, an article in the student newspaper at Bowdoin College described the extent to which even student hook-ups (essentially, anonymous couplings that ran the gamut from kissing to sex) were being driven by this fear. Or as one student commented "It's easier to send a text message than to have to put yourself out there and have an actual conversation . . . much easier than being rejected in person." It's odd. Because on the one hand, hook-ups are the logical conclusion to Jong's fantasy—the idea that women can use sexual encounters to address their own demands and desires. On the other hand, though, by taking away the complexities of romance, hook-ups can appear to protect young women without necessarily fulfilling them. They remove the adventure of love, the heady, terrifying prospect of falling hard and losing control. I wouldn't wish this fate on our students, of course, or fault them for managing their personal lives as carefully as their academic ones. But sometimes, I long to throw Jong back at them; to tell them to forget the internship for one summer, to forego the

research project, and just get on a train to nowhere and see where it might go.

LINDA A. BELL: NEW PROVOST

Continued from Page 5

time. Competitive pressures should force discriminators out of business," says Bell. However, she has found the idea challenging to embrace when observing differentials in salaries and compensation by race and gender that have persisted over time. Her recent research on executive women has shown a sizeable gender difference that disappears when top executives work in companies that are led by women.

During her time as provost at Haverford, Bell often interacted with alumni, and she eagerly anticipates making similar connections at Barnard. "I was so deeply impressed with the Haverford alumni and their commitment to the school, and that sense of nostalgia and love for the institution that had helped to shape them," she says. "One of the joys of my job at Barnard [is] the ability to interact with and to learn from the alumnae. Those alumnae I've met are fantastic women who are doing really interesting things and who have a deep love and admiration for the College that is inspirational. Faculty who devote their careers to teaching at a place like Barnard are people who really have as their chief objective educating young women to fulfill their academic goals and career aspirations. Seeing it happen...is just a wonderful satisfaction."

THE MODERN NOVEL GOES DIGITAL

Continued from Page 10

who hadn't read all of the novels as an undergraduate, adds, "I like the way Mary looks at literature. I'm taken by her insights. This was intellectually stimulating."

Working with alumnae was just as enriching an experience for Gordon. "These are [women] who've done lots of things," she says. "What's been thrilling is having them say, 'I want serious intellectual engagement,' or 'Our

reading group isn't good enough for me.' One woman who is a judge responded to the unreliable narrator in *The Good Soldier*. That rocked my world: [The response] so wonderfully expanded a hope I'd always had that literature does connect to life . . . but also made it clear to me how it could perhaps be the opposite of useful, and that paradox, in a way, embodies all the complexities that make literature invaluable.

"The level of the responses was incredibly high. It was very exciting to talk to people around the world and feel that Barnard spirit of tough, demanding, insightful and close reading. It's not over when you graduate."

Another online course is being planned for the fall of 2013 and will be announced when the dates and syllabus have been confirmed.

MANKIND'S MESSENGER

Continued from Page 11

it," he exhorted. "We are all connected. God alone is alone; human beings are not. We must open our eyes and our hearts to those who need."

After the speech, President Spar moderated audience questions, including one asking whether the Holocaust could happen again. "There is a man in this world whose name is Ahmadinejad," Wiesel answered, referring to the Iranian president. "...Head of a powerful nation, he goes around saying openly and repeatedly that he wants to destroy the Jewish state. My advice to the [U.S.] president: 'Why don't we arrest him and bring him to The Hague, charge him with a plan to destroy an entire people – a genocide.'"

Wiesel concluded his talk by reading from what he called "his credo," which underscored many of the principles he addressed. "I belong to a traumatized generation that often felt abandoned by God and betrayed by mankind," he said. "Yet I know that even in darkness, on the edge of the abyss, it is possible to dream exalted dreams of compassion."

INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS

Continued from Page 14

exposure to cutting-edge research that is rarely available to undergraduates.

That's quite the departure from her own undergraduate training at India's University of Calcutta. "The material of introductory physics hasn't changed," says Mukherjee. "But the way it's taught has." Her undergraduate coursework involved a lot of memorization and the answering of questions based on theory. "The way I teach it, there's a lot less memorization. It's more about understanding and applying the material."

Mukherjee makes frequent use of her blackboard, solving problems in chalk rather than using Web-based tools. She feels the common practice of using PowerPoint to teach problem solving can make the teaching process move too quickly. Writing out each problem slows the material down and helps the students find their footing in the science.

Throughout the course, she handpicks real-world problems from daily life, current scientific news, and her own research in high-energy astrophysics. Then, she uses those problems to frame fundamental lessons in kinematics and collisions, and the conservation of energy and gravitation. She introduces particle physics, for example, by telling students about the Large Hadron Collider, near Geneva, and scientists' recent discovery of a Higgs Boson-like particle, which could lead to a discovery of how matter attains its mass. Research in particle physics and astrophysics, she notes, has spinoffs in technology and electronics development down the road.

Other problems lean towards the whimsical, like one that Mukherjee takes from Antoine De Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*. The lamplighter that the prince encounters on a small planet complains that in the past he only had to light the lamp and extinguish it every 12 hours, but now has to do so every minute. Using concepts of conservation laws in physics, the students are asked to compute the ratios of the past and present surface areas of this strange spinning planet to determine the cause of the lamplighter's plight.

Mukherjee delves into astrophysics—her specialty—by explaining how

researchers are using recently launched NASA satellites to study high-energy astrophysics, which probe the history and origins of the universe. Students interested in research might even get the chance to analyze data from these satellites as they continue their studies, thanks to a recent grant Mukherjee obtained from NASA. She knows that physics students often wait years before they can apply their knowledge to research. But regular reminders of how they can use what they're studying give them a vivid picture of what's possible in the field. Her pitch to students: Her generation won't answer all the questions—it's up to them to make the next moves forward.

In addition to her work in the classroom, Mukherjee heads Barnard's VERITAS (Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System) group, which conducts research at an observatory about 50 miles south of Tucson, Ariz. At VERITAS, a collaboration of nearly 100 scientists and research students, an array of four telescopes captures the flash of light that high-energy gamma rays produce upon entering the earth's upper atmosphere. The gamma rays themselves originate from a variety of sources: active galaxies thought to have black holes at their centers; spinning neutron stars called "pulsars" in our own galaxy; and even gamma-ray bursts that the group hopes to locate. "There are a lot of steps in the process," Mukherjee says. "But we're essentially looking at light. Not light from the sun, but light that is a billion times more energetic than sunlight."

Every year, Mukherjee takes students from Barnard, Columbia, and other institutions to work at VERITAS. For the first time last summer, she took two dedicated first-year students to Arizona to work on an ongoing project funded by the National Science Foundation. There, current sophomores Gladys Velez-Cacedo and Florence Doval helped upgrade the telescopes' sophisticated cameras. They also analyzed data from VERITAS and NASA satellites at Columbia's Nevis Laboratories in Irvington, New York.

Whether students take Mukherjee's course as a pre-med requirement, potential physics majors, or to fulfill their science requirement, they'll emerge

understanding Newton's laws, collisions, and momentum. They'll also understand why they matter to the groundbreaking research changing the field today.

SALON: MARLENA HOLTER

Continued from Page 17

"Marlena has to work incredibly hard to balance all of her academic and skating demands," says Glendinning. "What has impressed me most is that despite all these demands on her time, she manages to remain calm, focused, and cheerful."

Given her schedule, Holter often has to tell friends she can't meet them for a party or outing. "When we're out on the ice on a Saturday morning, we all know what we did last night—we went right to bed," she says. But the camaraderie of her teammates makes up for the missed parties. "There's something to be said for having 18 other people who completely understand what you're dedicating your life to. I've been skating with some of these girls since we were 8 years old," she adds.

After college, Holter plans to spend a year skating on a team in Finland before attending medical school. She was inspired to pursue medicine as a career after suffering a concussion while skating and being treated by a neurosurgeon. Ultimately, she hopes to practice sports medicine. "Marlena is a marvel," says Lisa Hollibaugh, Barnard's first-year class dean. "Any new student who dives into the neuroscience/pre-med track is challenged by the rigorous workload, and yet she has managed to adapt to her course load along with her full-time skating practice schedule, with fantastic results."

Her mother, Pat Holter, acknowledges that skating has helped her daughter develop impressive study habits. "The skaters all do well in school because of the discipline and time management they learn," she says. "Marlena has a tremendous level of endurance. She can do schoolwork for hours." Both parents have had to wake up at 5 AM on many days and sacrifice numerous weekends to drive Holter and her younger sister, also a synchronized skater, to practices and competitions. "It's such a special sport," says Pat Holter. "With both girls we did

soccer, karate, and other activities, and this is what Marlena chose to do." She is a strong technical skater and serves as the senior-line captain, which requires her to call out the steps and provide support to her teammates.

Still, for all the demands of training and competing while handling a full course load, Holter says she is grateful for the opportunities skating has given her. "Stepping out on the ice at an international competition—not many people get to do that."

THE UNREPENTANT ADVOCATE

Continued from Page 20

says choosing a favorite award—like choosing a favorite legal case—would be like choosing which child she loves most. However, she admits that being the second woman (after Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg) to receive the Thurgood Marshall Award from the American Bar Association in 2008 "has a special resonance because of who the namesake is." Gertner says she admires Marshall's clarity of vision in dissent after dissent. "[In a speech] Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said that he brought to the court a set of experiences, perspectives, and context that was unique to that Court: The experience of having been reviled, discriminated against, and representing the powerless and dispossessed," Gertner explains.

As a professor of law, all too often she meets students at Harvard who are "hell-bent to pay back loans and seeking conservative career choices." Gertner wrote *In Defense of Women* because "I wanted to talk about what it was like to make choices based on what you love, to write about making a career in the public interest. Life would have been easier for me if I hadn't made those choices."

The gender discrimination that she encountered as a young lawyer in the seventies followed her even as the Senate Judiciary Committee reviewed her nomination for the federal judgeship. She recalls mobilizing every prosecutor she had ever opposed to send letters of support. Still, Gertner says her appointment was held up for 10 months. Massachusetts Senator Edward

Kennedy, who had recommended her for the federal judgeship in the first place, worked tirelessly on her behalf. The Senate eventually confirmed her in 1994, and she served on the bench until 2011. Along the way, Kennedy served as an inspiration. "He was willing to use his legislative skills towards social change," she says. "It didn't matter whether there would be consequences."

Even after her appointment, Gertner was criticized for her outspoken tendencies. Judges are often expected to be impartial, but impartiality is a struggle, and the question is how to achieve it since it's not something that's innate. "None of us is born neutral and without opinions," she argues. "We select judges in their forties and fifties, and life [gives] you opinions. The enterprise is to know where those opinions end and the job begins."

Those dynamics explain why Gertner is working on a second book, this one about the role of judges in contemporary society. "I'm writing about being a judge, not in the way that the academic books have treated it, but talking about the real pressures on judges," she explains. In her time on the bench, Gertner observed what she describes as pressure to avoid controversy and dismiss cases on technical grounds. "These forces really undermine access to justice, and it cuts across right and left," she says.

ALUMNAE IN SCIENCE

Continued from Page 27

Barnard, she'd already decided to pursue a career in chemistry. "Barnard taught women scientists, and invested in labs, teachers, and equipment at a time when women were not readily accepted as scientists," she says. With a PhD in biochemistry from Cornell, Meyers joined a lab at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, researching cancer-drug resistance. She discovered sorcin, a previously unknown calcium-binding protein, and subsequently discovered that sorcin also plays a role in cardiac function. "In the future, this information may help improve the treatment of heart disease and increase our knowledge of calcium's function in

cell biology,” Meyers says.

Active volunteers on behalf of Barnard, both Schwartz-Giblin and Meyers have joined forces to underscore the need for science majors by encouraging alumnae support for scholarships.

AN IMMUTABLE DOCUMENT?

Continued from Page 29

Jefferson certainly thought it was appropriate to have an armed citizenry within a well-regulated militia—he actually didn’t believe in having a standing army—but he wouldn’t recognize the situation that exists today. He would insist on the Second Amendment, but he’d be appalled by how the amendment has come to be understood.

The original language of the Second Amendment has no relation in practical terms to 2013, and what the United States has become. We’re stuck with this notion [of the right of the people “to keep and bear arms”] because we’re stuck with this document. And the fact that recent Supreme Court decisions have suggested the difficulty with respect to gun control indicates how problematic this amendment is. In addition, state legislatures are loosening up gun-control laws well beyond anything that the Supreme Court demands. There have been recent passages all over the country allowing for concealed weapons. The popular will seems to be in favor of loosening gun control rather than tightening it. We’ve had shooting incidents like Columbine and Newtown; they create an enormous outcry and then it gradually goes away. So it’s not just the poor old Constitution, it’s what people actually want.

You’ve written about Thomas Jefferson’s relationship to debt. In your book, *Principle and Interest*, you say Jefferson was obsessed with debt, and struggled with it himself. What do you think Jefferson would make of the national debt, and people’s individual debt?

Jefferson wanted to put the debt on the road to extinction—that was the meaning of his time in office. He would really have problems with the way

in which American public finance is managed today. But, he lived a long time ago. While we certainly want to do him honor, it’s a very different situation now. Also, Americans aren’t willing to give up their credit cards. It’s hard to apply the pay-as-you-go models that he was fond of to the way contemporary Americans live. I think, arguably, that most of modern America would be anathema to Thomas Jefferson. He was an 18th-century gentleman. He’d be distressed by society today; he’d be one of these people who would say the problem with America is the one outlined in *Bowling Alone*, the 2000 book by Robert Putnam, that discusses how Americans have become increasingly disconnected from community and democratic engagement. Our civic life is at a low point; political participation is hopeless. This is not what Jefferson imagined an active citizenry to be.

In addition to Principle and Interest, Herbert Sloan is the author of numerous articles on the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, the founding fathers, and the Constitution. He earned his bachelor’s at Stanford, his JD at the University of Michigan, and his PhD at Columbia University. He is at work on his next book about Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and Gouverneur Morris and how they came to the conclusion that the Constitution was seriously deficient.

A MILESTONE AT 40 YEARS

Continued from Page 33

adds Hanley, a Columbia alumna who was a student at the center during the 1990-1991 academic year. She enjoyed the experience so much that she not only decided to pursue a career in early-childhood development, she also enrolled her daughter, Megan Ettinger, there. “It was a natural thing. It didn’t occur to me that there was any other option,” she says. And, her daughter is now a sophomore at Barnard majoring in neuroscience.

Hanley and other staffers are proud of the center’s diverse student mix, which includes special-needs children as well as those of different races and socioeconomic backgrounds. To help maintain that mix, about one-third of

families are on a sliding-scale tuition plan based on their income, with some paying as little as \$25 per month, according to Klein.

Other parents of center students and alumni appreciate that diversity, along with the compassionate approach to childcare, not to mention the valuable tips they’ve learned for navigating the ups and downs of parenting toddlers. “Sometimes it’s hard to get through the day when your toddler has a different agenda,” says Emily Yang ’94, a mother of three center alumni, who still attends a weekly center support group for parents. “I really have found that the advice and insight I’ve gotten has given me an opportunity to enjoy my children,” affirms Yang. “Just being able to understand what was going on helped my toddlers get through [the terrible-twos] and helped me get through [them] too.”

“It’s very easy for parents to forget that [their toddlers] are not just little adults,” agrees parent Elizabeth Hines, adding that “it was wonderful to be able to bounce ideas off the staff” and tap into their huge store of knowledge about raising toddlers. Hines is not only the mother of a center alumna, she herself attended when she was a child in 1976, and though she doesn’t remember being there, she recalls her mother talking about what a great first learning experience it was. In that sense, Hines says, the center hasn’t changed. “It’s maintained its core of taking good, loving care of its students,” says Hines. “I truly felt my daughter was in expert hands.”

Looking ahead, Klein notes that the Toddler Center has plans on the drawing board for a new state-of-the-art research and observation facility, and will soon be launching a major 40th-anniversary fundraising campaign for that project as well as for a new endowment. In the meantime, she’s also finishing up a new book on parenting toddlers that will be published by Simon & Schuster in 2014.

LAST IMAGE: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Do you have an amazing photograph or work of art that you would like to share with fellow alumnae? Please send submissions to David Hopson at dhopson@barnard.edu.



TAKING WING

How skydiving prepared me for my first college drop-off

Wrap legs under the plane. Lean back. Roll out. Bend knees. Spread arms. I repeat these instructions over and over again in my head. It's the sequence given to me by the ex-Navy SEAL strapped to my back as I ready myself to take my first tandem skydiving jump. I feel like I'm in a movie that begins with an intense action scene and then flashes to the past to explain the backstory.

This is my backstory. At the beginning of his senior year of high school, my oldest child, Leo, asks my husband and me to skydive with him to celebrate his graduation before he leaves for college. We agree. It's a long time away and it seems like an abstraction. There are several hurdles to get over as well. For Leo and my husband, Matthew, it's the 230 lb. weight limit, and for me it's my pathological fear of heights. Weight can be lost but there is no diet for fear. In January Leo is half way to his goal, Matthew is hovering at the 230 lb. mark and my fear is in full bloom. Before I know it, August is here. Leo is at 220 lb., Matthew is still hovering, and I'm opting out. We have three younger children. I rationalize that only one parent should jump in case "something" happens.

So how did I end up in my very own action scene? Jump day comes and our family and Leo's two friends caravan to the Skydive Temple. I'm along to applaud their bravery and take pictures. There is a glitch. When it comes time to weigh in, Matthew is hovering on the wrong side of 230 and is grounded. All spring and summer I've said that I will be the jumping parent if Matthew doesn't make the cut. When I get the news, I hesitate, but then do the unimaginable and agree. I suit up as Matthew changes into lighter clothes and begs for mercy for the few pounds he is over. The manager grants his request, but it's too late for me to turn back now. I'm going through with this. It's decided that Leo will jump twice, first with Matthew and then with me. Different planes, one surviving parent.

Back again to the scene on the plane. I'm sitting on the edge of the open door, legs wrapped as told. Leo jumps first. I'm too stunned by what I'm about to do to assimilate the fact that I just watched my son tumble out of an airplane. A strange determination comes over me. It's as if there is no another choice but to roll out. Before I can think again, I'm free falling from 12,000 feet at 125 miles per hour. The astonishing part is that I'm not scared. There is none of the crippling fear that comes to me at the edge of a high balcony or a cliff. Apparently the brain cannot calibrate for distance when skydiving. In 60 seconds the chute goes up and the deafening rush of the free fall is replaced by the purest quiet I've ever experienced. At that point, the ex-Navy SEAL points out where Leo is coming down. It's the first time I think about him since we were on the plane. He looks so far away. He lands and greets me as I touch down. He beams as he hugs me. He never thought I could do it.

Forward to my movie's epilogue. The weekend after our jump, Leo and I fly out of state to drop him off for his freshman year of college. There are no parachutes or ex-Navy SEALs this time but it's as big of a jump for both of us. For him it's easy. He is ready to free fall into his future and the thrill of young adulthood. Leo does not need the weight of my hugs, tears, and gargantuan parental love to ground him. He needs me to watch him float through this transition from afar.

For me, rolling out of an airplane is easier than driving out of the university campus without him. This is not a tandem event. I have earned this solo emotional jump with nine months of pregnancy and 18 years of parenting. We spend my last night on campus walking, laughing, and talking. He gives me my instructions, lets me know it's time to jump. He is going first and I will follow. Unfortunately the heart can calibrate for the distance. I trust that we will both land softly on the same earth at different places. We will be very proud of each other. I never thought I could do it.

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